WELLINGTON FLOOD
EMERGENCY SUB PLAN

A Sub-Plan of the Wellington Local Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN)

Volume 1 of the Wellington Local Flood Plan
AUTHORISATION

The Wellington Flood Emergency Sub Plan is a sub plan of the Wellington Local Emergency Management Plan (EMPLAN). It has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of the State Emergency Service Act 1989 (NSW) and is authorised by the Local Emergency Management Committee in accordance with the provisions of the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 (NSW).

Recommended

NSW SES Wellington Local Controller

Date:

Approved

Chair, Local Emergency Management Committee

Date: 14 July 2015
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VERSION HISTORY

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AMENDMENT LIST

Suggestions for amendments to this plan should be forwarded to:

The Wellington Local Controller
NSW State Emergency Service
PO Box 98, Wellington NSW 2820

Amendments promulgated in the amendments list below have been entered in this plan.

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Document Issue: V1-30122014
## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

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<th>Abbreviation</th>
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<td>AEP</td>
<td>Annual Exceedance Probability</td>
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<td>AHD</td>
<td>Australian Height Datum</td>
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<td>AIIMS</td>
<td>Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System</td>
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<tr>
<td>ARI</td>
<td>Average Recurrence Interval (Years)</td>
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<td>ALERT</td>
<td>Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time</td>
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<td>CBRN</td>
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GLOSSARY

**Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP).** The chance of a flood of a given or larger size occurring in any one year, usually expressed as a percentage. For example, if a peak flood level (height) has an AEP of 5%, there is a 5% chance (that is, a one-in-20 chance) of such a level or higher occurring in any one year (see also Average Recurrence Interval).

**Assistance Animal.** A guide dog, a hearing assistance dog or any other animal trained to assist a person to alleviate the effect of a disability (Refer to Section 9 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992).

**Assembly Area.** An assembly area is a designated location used for the assembly of emergency-affected persons before they move to temporary accommodation or a nominated evacuation centre. As such these areas do not provide welfare assistance nor are they used for long term sheltering or provision of meals. An assembly area may also be a prearranged, strategically placed area, where support response personnel, vehicles and other equipment can be held in readiness for use during an emergency.

**Australian Height Datum (AHD).** A common national surface level datum approximately corresponding to mean sea level.

**Average Recurrence Interval (ARI).** The long-term average number of years between the occurrence of a flood as big as, or larger than, the selected event. For example, floods reaching a height as great as, or greater than, the 20 year ARI flood event will occur on average once every 20 years.

**Catchment (River Basin).** The land area draining through the main stream, as well as tributary streams, to a particular site. It always relates to an area above a specific location.

**Dam Break Study.** A Dam Break Study is undertaken to determine the likely downstream inundation areas in case of a dam failure. Modelling is undertaken for a range of dam breach possibilities and design floods. The dam break study includes information such as the extent of flooding, flood travel times and flood water velocities. The study can assist dam owners, regulators, and emergency agencies in the preparations of evacuation plans, dam break and other flood warning systems, and hazard classification of affected areas.

**Dam Failure.** The uncontrolled release of a water storage. The failure may consist of the collapse of the dam or some part of it, or excessive seepage or discharges. The most likely causes of dam failure are;
• **Flood Induced Dam Failure**: Dam failure caused by flood, either due to overtopping erosion or by subsequent structural failure.

• **Sunny Day Dam Failure**: Dam Failure as a result of factors other than flood i.e. other than flood flow into the reservoir. Causes of "Sunny Day" dam failure can include internal erosion, landslide, piping, earthquake or sabotage.

**Dam Safety Emergency Plan (DSEP).** A DSEP outlines the required actions of owners and their personnel at dams in response to a range of possible emergency situations. The NSW Dam Safety Committee requires a quality controlled DSEP, with associated dambreak warning procedures to be prepared for prescribed dams where persons may be at risk downstream, if the dam failed.

**Design Flood (or Flood Standard).** A flood of specified magnitude that is adopted for planning purposes. Selections should be based on an understanding of flood behaviour and the associated flood risk, and take account of social, economic and environmental considerations. There may be several design floods for an individual area.

**Emergency Alert.** The national telephone warning system used by emergency services to send voice messages to landlines and text messages to mobile phones within a defined area, about likely or actual emergencies.

**EMPLAN (Emergency Management Plan).** The object of an EMPLAN is to ensure the coordinated response by all agencies having responsibilities and functions in emergencies.

**Essential Services.** Those services, often provided by local government authorities, that are considered essential to the life of organised communities. Such services include power, lighting, water, gas, sewerage and sanitation clearance.

**Evacuation.** The temporary movement of people from a dangerous or potentially dangerous place to a safe location, and their eventual return. It is a safety strategy which uses distance to separate people from the danger created by the hazard.

**Evacuation Order.** Notification to the community, authorised by the NSW SES, when the intent of an Incident Controller is to instruct a community to immediately evacuate in response to an imminent threat.

**Evacuation Warning.** Notification to the community, authorised by the NSW SES, when the intent of an Incident Controller is to warn a community of the need to prepare for a possible evacuation.

**Flash Flooding.** Flooding which is sudden and often unexpected because it is caused by sudden local or nearby heavy rainfall. It is sometimes defined as flooding which occurs within six hours of the rain that causes it.
**Flood.** Relatively high water level which overtops the natural or artificial banks in any part of a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam, and/or local overland flooding associated with drainage before entering a watercourse, and/or coastal inundation resulting from super-elevated sea levels and/or waves overtopping coastline defences, including Tsunami.

**Flood Classifications.** Locally defined flood levels used in flood warnings to give an indication of the severity of flooding (minor, moderate or major) expected. These levels are used by the State Emergency Service and the Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology in flood bulletins and flood warnings.

**Flood Intelligence.** The product of collecting, collating, analysing and interpreting flood-related data to produce meaningful information (intelligence) to allow for the timely preparation, planning and warning for and response to a flood.

**Flood Fringe.** The remaining area of flood prone land after floodway and flood storage have been defined.

**Flood Liable Land (also referred to as Flood Prone Land).** Land susceptible to flooding by the Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) event. This term also describes the maximum extent of a floodplain which is an area of a river valley, adjacent to the river channel, which is subject to inundation in floods up to this event.

**Flood of Record.** Maximum observed historical flood.

**Floodplain.** Area of land which is subject to inundation by floods up to and including the probable maximum flood event, that is, flood prone land (1).

**Floodplain Management Plan.** A plan developed in accordance with the principles and guidelines in the New South Wales Floodplain Development Manual. Such a plan usually includes both written and diagrammatic information describing how particular areas of flood prone land can be used and managed to achieve defined objectives.

**Flood Plan.** A response strategy plan that deals specifically with flooding and is a sub-plan of an Emergency Management Plan. Flood plans describe agreed roles, responsibilities, functions, strategies and management arrangements for the conduct of flood operations and for preparing for them. A flood plan contains information and arrangements for all floods whereas an IAP is for a specific flood/event.

**Flood Rescue.** The rescue or retrieval of persons trapped by floodwaters.

**Flood Storage Areas.** Those parts of the floodplain that are important for the temporary storage of floodwaters during the passage of a flood. The extent and behaviour of
flood storage areas may change with flood severity, and loss of flood storage can increase the severity of flood impacts by reducing natural flood attenuation.

**Floodway.** An area where a significant volume of water flows during floods. Such areas are often aligned with obvious naturally-defined channels and are areas that, if partially blocked, would cause a significant redistribution of flood flow which may in turn adversely affect other areas. They are often, but not necessarily, the areas of deeper flow or the areas where higher velocities occur.

**Flood Watch.** A Flood Watch is a notification of the potential for a flood to occur as a result of a developing weather situation and consists of short generalised statements about the developing weather including forecast rainfall totals, description of catchment conditions and indicates streams at risk. The Bureau will also attempt to estimate the magnitude of likely flooding in terms of the adopted flood classifications. Flood Watches are normally issued 24 to 36 hours in advance of likely flooding. Flood watches are issued on a catchment wide basis.

**Flood Warning.** A Flood Warning is a gauge specific forecast of actual or imminent flooding. Flood Warnings specify the river valley, the locations expected to be flooded, the likely severity of flooding and when it will occur.

**Functional Area.** A category of services involved in the preparations for an emergency, including the following:

- Agriculture and Animal Services;
- Energy and Utility Services;
- Engineering Services;
- Environmental Services;
- Health Services;
- Public Information Services;
- Telecommunication Services;
- Transport Services; and
- Welfare Services.

**Geographic Information System (GIS).** A geographic information system (GIS) integrates hardware, software, and data for capturing, managing, analysing, and displaying all forms of geographically referenced information.

**Incident Action Plan (IAP).** An action plan for managing a specific event. Information from the Local Flood Plan is used to develop the flood IAP.
**Indirect Effect.** Indirect effects are generally a consequence of infrastructure damage or interruption of services and can affect communities distant from the actual flood footprint i.e. floodplain. Indirect effects can also refer to indirect losses due to disruption of economic activity, both in areas which are inundated or isolated. Indirect effects are one of the three primary sources of risk in the context of flooding (the other two are inundation and isolation).

**Inundation.** See definition for Flood.

**Isolation.** Properties and/or communities where flooding cuts access to essential services or means of supply. Isolation is one of the three primary sources of risk in the context of flooding (the other two are inundation and indirect effects).

**Liaison Officer (LO).** A person, nominated or appointed by an organisation or functional area, to represent that organisation or functional area at a control centre, emergency operations centre, or coordination centre. A liaison officer maintains communications with and conveys directions/requests to their organisation or functional area, and provides advice on the status, capabilities, actions and requirements of their organisation or functional area.

**Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC).** The LEMC is responsible for the preparation of plans in relation to the prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies in the local government area for which it is constituted. In the exercise of its functions, the Committee is responsible to the Region Emergency Management Committee (REMC) and may communicate with the REMC for matters associated with Functional Areas that are not represented at the local Level.

**Local Overland Flooding.** Inundation by local runoff rather than overbank discharge from a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam.

**Major Flooding.** Flooding which causes inundation of extensive rural areas, with properties, villages and towns isolated and/or appreciable urban areas flooded.

**Minor Flooding.** Flooding which causes inconvenience such as closing of minor roads and the submergence of low-level bridges. The lower limit of this class of flooding, on the reference gauge, is the initial flood level at which landholders and/or townspeople begin to be affected in a significant manner that necessitates the issuing of a public flood warning by the Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology.

**Moderate Flooding.** Flooding which inundates low-lying areas, requiring removal of stock and/or evacuation of some houses. Main traffic routes may be covered.
Moveable Dwellings. Any tent, or any caravan or other van or other portable device (whether on wheels or not), used for human habitation; or a manufactured home; or any conveyance, structure or thing of a class or description prescribed by the (Local Government) regulations (3).

Peak Height. The highest level reached, at a nominated gauging station, during a particular flood event.

Prescribed Dam. "Prescribed" dams are those listed in Schedule 1 of the Dams Safety Act 1978. The NSW Dam Safety Committee will prescribe those dams with the potential for a failure which could have a significant adverse effect on community interests.

Probable Maximum Flood (PMF). The largest flood that could conceivably be expected to occur at a particular location, usually estimated from probable maximum precipitation. The PMF defines the maximum extent of flood prone land, that is, the floodplain. It is difficult to define a meaningful Annual Exceedance Probability for the PMF, but it is commonly assumed to be of the order of $10^4$ to $10^7$ (once in 10,000 to 10,000,000 years).

Riverine Flooding. Inundation of normally dry land occurring when water overflows the natural or artificial banks of a stream, river, estuary, lake or dam. Riverine flooding generally excludes watercourses constructed with pipes or artificial channels considered as stormwater channels (4).

Runoff. The amount of rainfall which ends up as stream flow, also known as ‘rainfall excess’ since it is the amount remaining after accounting for other processes such as evaporation and infiltration.

Stage Height. A level reached, at a nominated gauging station, during the development of a particular flood event.

Stream Gauging Station. A place on a river or stream at which the stage height is routinely measured, either daily or continuously, and where the discharge is measured from time to time so as to develop a relationship between stage and discharge or rating curve.

Total Flood Warning System. A flood warning system is made up of components which must be integrated if the system is to operate effectively. Components of the total flood warning system include monitoring rainfall and river flows, prediction, interpretation of the likely impacts, construction and dissemination of warning messages, response by agencies and community members, and review of the warning system after flood events (5).
PART 1 - INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE

1.1.1 This plan covers preparedness measures, the conduct of response operations and the coordination of immediate recovery measures from flooding within the Wellington LGA. It covers operations for all levels of flooding within the council area.

1.2 AUTHORITY

1.2.1 This plan is issued under the authority of the State Emergency and Rescue Management Act 1989 (NSW) and the State Emergency Service Act 1989 (NSW). It has been approved by the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller and the NSW SES Macquarie Region Controller as a NSW SES plan and endorsed by the Wellington Local Emergency Management Committee as a sub plan of the Local EMPLAN.

1.3 AREA COVERED BY THE PLAN

1.3.1 The area covered by the plan is the Wellington LGA which includes: the town of Wellington, the villages of Stuart Town, Mumbil, Euchareena, Geurie and Elong Elong, the settlements of Nanima, Bodangora, Dripstone, Kerr's Creek, Burrendong Dam, north Yeoval, and large intervening areas of rural land.

1.3.2 The Council Area also includes:

a. Lake Burrendong.

b. The Macquarie River from Lake Burrendong to the Little River confluence, together with the middle and lower reaches of the tributary Bell and Little Rivers. The Little River forms the western boundary of the council area. Curra Creek, a tributary of, and joining the Bell River near Maughan St, Wellington.

c. A short section of the Talbragar River along the northern boundary and the tributary Mitchell’s, Spicer’s and Baragonumbel creeks.

d. A short section of the right (western) bank of the Cudgegong River above the point at which it enters Lake Burrendong.

1.3.3 The council area and its principal rivers and creeks are shown in Attachment 3.

1.3.4 The council area is in the NSW SES Macquarie Region and for emergency management purposes is part of the Central West Emergency Management Region.

1.4 DESCRIPTION OF FLOODING AND ITS EFFECTS

1.4.1 The NSW SES maintains information on the nature of flooding and effects of flooding on the community in the Wellington LGA.
1.5 RESPONSIBILITIES

1.5.1 The general responsibilities of emergency service organisations and supporting services (functional areas) are listed in the Local and State Emergency Management Plans (EMPLAN). Some specific responsibilities are expanded upon in the following paragraphs. The extent of their implementation will depend on the severity of the flooding.

1.5.2 **NSW SES Wellington Local Controller.** The NSW SES Wellington Local Controller is responsible for dealing with floods as detailed in the State Flood Plan, and will;

**Preparedness**


b. Ensure that NSW SES members are trained to undertake operations in accordance with current policy as laid down in the NSW SES Controllers’ Guide and the NSW SES Operations Manual.

c. Coordinate the development and operation of a flood warning service for the community.

d. Participate in floodplain risk management initiatives organised by the Wellington Council.

e. Coordinate a community engagement and capacity building program regarding local flood issues and associated risks to assist communities in building resilience to floods.

f. Identify and monitor people and/or communities at risk of flooding.

g. Ensure that the currency of this plan is maintained.

**Response**

h. Appoint an appropriate Local Incident Controller to undertake response roles. The Incident Controller will;

- Control flood and storm response operations. This includes;
  - Directing the activities of the NSW SES units operating within the council area.
  - Coordinating the activities of supporting agencies and organisations and ensuring that liaison is established with them.
  - Contribute to preparation of Region IAP.

- Provide an information service in relation to;
  - Flood heights and flood behaviour.
  - Road conditions and closures.
Wellington Local Flood Plan

- Advice on methods of limiting property damage.
- Confirmation of evacuation warnings and evacuation orders.

- Direct the conduct of flood rescue operations.
- Direct the evacuation of people and/or communities.
- Provide immediate welfare support for evacuated people.
- Coordinate the provision of emergency food and medical supplies to isolated people and/or communities.
- Coordinate operations to assist the community to protect property. This may include:
  - Arranging resources for sandbagging operations.
  - Lifting or moving household furniture.
  - Lifting or moving commercial stock and equipment.
- Assist the Wellington Council to organise temporary repairs or improvements to levees.
- Where possible, arrange for support (for example, accommodation and meals) for emergency service organisation members and volunteers assisting them.
- Ensure that the managers of caravan parks are advised of flood warnings and the details of any evacuation order.
- If NSW SES resources are available, assist with emergency fodder supply operations conducted by Agriculture and Animal Services.
- If NSW SES resources are available, assist the NSW Police Force, RMS and Council with road closure and traffic control operations.
- Exercise financial delegations relating to the use of emergency orders as laid down in the NSW SES Controllers’ Guide.
- Coordinate the collection of flood information for development of intelligence.
- Submit Situation Reports to the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters and agencies assisting within the council area. These will contain information on:
  - Road conditions and closures.
  - Current flood behaviour.
  - Current operational activities.
  - Likely future flood behaviour.
  - Likely future operational activities.
  - Probable resource needs.
- Keep the Local Emergency Operations Controller advised of the flood situation and the operational response.
• Issue the ‘All Clear’ when flood operations have been completed.

**Recovery**

i. Ensure that appropriate After Action Reviews are held after floods.

j. Provide appropriate representation to the recovery committee for the duration of the response phase of an event and as agreed during the recovery phase.

1.5.3 **NSW SES Wellington Unit Members**

a. Carry out flood response tasks. These may include;
   • The management of the NSW SES Wellington Local and Unit Headquarters Operations Centres.
   • Assist in the collection of flood information for the development of intelligence.
   • Flood rescue.
   • Evacuation.
   • Providing immediate welfare for evacuated people.
   • Delivery of warnings and information.
   • Resupply.
   • Levee monitoring.
   • Sandbagging.
   • Lifting and/or moving household furniture and commercial stock.
   • Animal rescue.
   • Assisting in repairing or improving levees.
   • Assisting with road closure and traffic control operations.
   • Assisting with emergency fodder supply operations.

b. Assist with preparedness activities.

c. Undertake training in flood and storm response operations.

1.5.4 **Wellington Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON)**

a. Monitor flood operations.

b. Request and coordinate support to the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller if requested to do so.

1.5.5 **Wellington Local Emergency Management Officer**

a. Provide executive support to the LEMC and LEOCON in accordance with the Wellington Local Emergency Management Plan.

b. At the request of the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller, advise appropriate agencies and officers of the start of response operations.
1.5.6 Wellington Council

**Preparedness**


b. Establish and maintain floodplain risk management committees and ensure that key agencies are represented on such committees.

c. Provide levee studies, flood studies, floodplain management studies to the NSW SES.

d. Provide information on the consequences of dam failure to the NSW SES for incorporation into planning and flood intelligence.

e. Maintain a plant and equipment resource list for the council area.

f. Work with NSW SES on the development and implementation of a community engagement and capacity building program.

**Response**

g. At the request of the NSW SES Local Controller, deploy personnel and resources for flood related activities.

h. Close and reopen council roads (and other roads nominated by agreement with the RMS) and advise the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller and the Police.

i. Provide information on the status of roads.

j. Provide filled sandbags to urban and village areas in which flooding is expected.

k. Assist with the removal of caravans from caravan parks, where resources permit.

l. Provide storage area for caravans relocated from caravan parks.

m. Provide back-up radio communications.

n. In the event of evacuations, assist with making facilities available for the domestic pets and companion animals of evacuees.

**Recovery**

o. Provide for the management of health hazards associated with flooding. This includes removing debris and waste.

p. Ensure premises are fit and safe for reoccupation and assess any need for demolition.

q. Arrange for storage of evacuees' furniture as required.
1.5.7 **Community Members**

*Preparedness*

a. Understanding the potential risk and impact of flooding;
b. Preparing homes and property to reduce the impact of flooding;
c. Understanding warnings and other triggers for action and the safest actions to take in a flood;
d. Households, institutions and businesses developing plans to manage flood risks, sharing and practicing this with family, friends, employees and neighbours;
e. Having an emergency kit;
f. Being involved in local emergency planning processes.

1.5.8 **Agriculture and Animal Services Functional Area**

a. When requested by NSW SES;
   - Activate the Agriculture and Animal Services Supporting Plan as required and coordinate the provision of required services which may include;
     - Co-ordinate response for all animals including pets, livestock and wildlife.
     - Supply and delivery of emergency fodder.
     - Emergency water replacement in certain circumstances.
     - Coordinate the management of livestock and farm animals.
     - Advice on dealing with dead and injured farm animals.
     - Financial, welfare and damage assessment assistance to flood affected farmers.
     - Coordinate the establishment of animal shelter compound facilities for the domestic pets and companion animals of evacuees.

1.5.9 **The New South Wales Ambulance**

a. Assist with the evacuation of at risk communities (in particular elderly and/or infirm people).
b. Deploy ambulance resources to appropriate locations if access is expected to be lost.
c. Assist the NSW SES with flood rescue operations, where resources and training permit.

1.5.10 **Australian Government Bureau of Meteorology (The Bureau)**

a. Provide Flood Watches for the Macquarie-Bogan River Basin.
b. Provide Flood Warnings, incorporating height-time predictions, for Wellington Bridge gauge (Macquarie River) – 421003.
c. Provide severe weather warnings when flash flooding is likely to occur.

1.5.11 Caravan Park Proprietor(s)


b. Ensure that owners and occupiers of moveable dwellings are aware that the caravan park is flood liable by;
   - Providing a written notice to occupiers taking up residence. The notice will indicate that the caravan park is liable to flooding and designate the location of flood liable land with the park.
   - Displaying this notice and the emergency arrangements for the Caravan Park prominently in the park.

c. Ensure that owners and occupiers of moveable dwellings are aware that if they are expecting to be absent for extended periods, they should:
   - Provide the manager of the caravan park with a contact address and telephone number in case of an emergency.
   - Leave any moveable dwelling in a condition allowing it to be relocated in an emergency (i.e.: should ensure that the wheels, axles and draw bar of the caravans are not removed, and are maintained in proper working order) (6).

d. Ensure that occupiers are informed of Flood Information. At this time, occupiers should be advised to;
   - Ensure that they have spare batteries for their radios.
   - Listen to a local radio station for updated flood information.
   - Prepare for evacuation and moveable dwelling relocation.

e. Ensure that owners and occupiers of caravans are aware of what they must do to facilitate evacuation and moveable dwelling relocation when flooding occurs.

f. Coordinate the evacuation of people and the relocation of moveable dwellings when floods are rising and their return when flood waters have subsided. Moveable dwellings will be relocated back to the caravan park(s) by owners or by vehicles and drivers arranged by the park managers.

g. Secure any moveable dwellings that are not able to be relocated to prevent floatation.

h. Inform the NSW SES of the progress of evacuation and/or moveable dwellings relocation operations and of any need for assistance in the conduct of these tasks.

1.5.12 Child Care Centres and Preschools

a. Childcare Centres are to be contacted by the NSW SES in the event of possible flooding or isolation.

b. When notified the child care centres and preschools should;
• Liaise with the NSW SES and arrange for the early release of children whose travel arrangements are likely to be disrupted by flooding and/or road closures.

• Assist with coordinating the evacuation of preschools and child care centres.

c. Provide communications assistance.

1.5.13 **Energy and Utility Services Functional Area**

a. When requested by NSW SES;

• Implement the Energy and Utilities Services Functional Area Supporting Plan.

• Where required, coordinate energy and utility services emergency management planning, preparation, response and recovery, including the restoration of services following a flood event.

• Coordinate advice to the NSW SES of any need to disconnect electricity, gas, water or wastewater services.

• Assist the NSW SES to identify infrastructure at risk of flooding for incorporation into planning and intelligence.

• Identify interdependencies between flooding and utility services due to secondary impacts of flooding and advise the NSW SES.

• Assist the NSW SES with advisory notices relating to hazards from utility services during flooding.

• Coordinate with utilities on restoration of services, including advisory notices relating to estimated time for restoration and mandatory safety checks prior to reconnection. Advise the NSW SES and the relevant recovery committee and coordinator of the timetable for restoration.

b. Local utility service distribution providers (electricity, gas, water, waste water):

• Provide advice to the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller of any need to disconnect power/gas/water/waste water supplies or of any timetable for reconnection.

• Advise the NSW SES of any hazards from utility services during flooding.

• Advise the public with regard to electrical hazards during flooding and to the availability or otherwise of the electricity supply.

• Clear or make safe any hazard caused by power lines or electricity distribution equipment.

• Reconnect customers’ electrical/ gas/ water/waste water installations when certified safe to do so and as conditions allow.
• Assist the NSW SES to identify infrastructure at risk of flooding for incorporation into planning and intelligence.

1.5.14 Engineering Services Functional Area

a. When requested by NSW SES;
   • Provide engineering advice regarding the integrity of damaged structures.
   • Assist the NSW SES with damage assessment.
   • Acquire and/or provide specialist technical engineering expertise.
   • Assist the NSW SES and councils with the assessment and operation of flood protection levees when requested.
   • Assist with property protection, including the construction or repair of levees.
   • Coordinate the restoration of critical public facilities.

b. When requested by the Recovery Coordinator:
   • Establish Recovery Centres by the procurement and fit-out of suitable properties.

1.5.15 Environmental Services Functional Area

a. When requested by NSW SES;
   • Implement the Environmental Services Functional Area (Enviroplan) Supporting Plan if required.

1.5.16 Fire and Rescue NSW, Wellington

a. FRNSW responsibilities are primarily confined to the FRNSW Fire District. Any deployment of FRNSW resources to assist NSW SES in flood events rests with the respective FRNSW Commander which must be a Senior Officer.

b. The FRNSW Commander will assess the capability of FRNSW to assist NSW SES in the following tasks:
   • Assist the NSW SES with the warning and/or evacuation of at risk communities.
   • Assist the NSW SES with the monitoring / reconnaissance of flood prone areas.
   • Assist the NSW SES with the resupply of isolated communities and/or properties.
   • Assist the NSW SES with property protection tasks including sandbagging.
   • Provide resources for pumping flood water out of buildings and from low-lying areas.
• Assist with clean-up operations, including the hosing out of flood affected properties.
• Coordinate the deployment of fire resources to communities within Fire and Rescue NSW fire districts if access is expected to be lost in consultation with the NSW SES.

FRNSW will use its best endeavours to deploy appliances and or resources into locations where access is expected to be lost.

1.5.17 Forestry Corporation of NSW
a. Close and evacuate at risk camping grounds in State Forest managed areas.
b. Close and reopen Forestry Corporation of NSW roads when affected by flood waters and advise the NSW SES of its status.
c. Facilitate the safe reliable access of emergency resources on Forestry Corporation managed roads.
d. Assist the NSW SES with identification of road infrastructure at risk of flooding.
e. Manage traffic in Forestry Corporation of NSW roads.
f. Assist the NSW SES with the communication of warnings and information provision to the public through variable message signs and other appropriate means.

1.5.18 Health Services Functional Area
a. When requested by NSW SES;
   • Activate Healthplan if required.
   • Ensure that appropriate business continuity plans are developed for essential health infrastructure and are activated during floods.
   • Provide medical support to the NSW SES.
   • Establish health surveillance in affected areas.
   • Assess potential public health risks that either acutely endanger the health of human populations or are thought to have longer term consequences.
   • Provide environmental health advice.
   • Provide public health warnings and advice to affected communities.
   • Provide psychological counselling support to the community and emergency response workers impacted, via NSW Health Mental Health Division.
   • Assist the NSW SES with the warning and evacuation of public hospitals, private hospitals and residential aged care facilities.
   • Undertake vulnerable persons assessment for mental health and drug and alcohol dependant persons, dialysis, frail and/or aged and oxygen dependant persons in the community, known to the health service.
1.5.19 **NSW Office of Water**

a. Collect and maintain flood data including data relating to flood heights, velocities and discharges.

b. Provide the Bureau of Meteorology and NSW SES real-time or near real-time access to river height gauges and height data for the development of official flood warnings.

c. Provide flow rating charts for river height gauges.

d. Manage (with technical support from OEH) the approval process under the Water Act 1912 and Water Management Act 2000 for flood control works (earthworks, embankments and levees which can affect the distribution of floodwaters) including:
   - Assessment and approval of flood control works (including flood mitigation works) in rural areas designated under the Acts.
   - Use of floodplain management plans prepared by OEH in rural areas designated under the Acts to assess flood control work approvals.
   - Giving the NSW SES access to relevant studies regarding flooding and studies supporting floodplain management plans prepared by OEH including flood studies, floodplain risk management studies and flood behaviour investigations.

1.5.20 **NSW Police Force, Orana Local Area Command (LAC)**

a. Assist the NSW SES with the delivery of evacuation warnings and evacuation orders.

b. Assist the NSW SES with the conduct of evacuation operations.

c. Conduct road and traffic control operations in conjunction with council and/or RMS.

d. Coordinate the registration of evacuees.

e. Secure evacuated areas.

1.5.21 **NSW Rural Fire Service (RFS Orana)**

a. Provide personnel in rural areas and villages to;
   - Inform the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller about flood conditions and response needs in their own communities, and
   - Disseminate flood information.

b. Provide personnel and high-clearance vehicles for flood related activities.

c. Assist the NSW SES with the delivery of evacuation warnings and evacuation orders.

d. Assist the NSW SES with the conduct of evacuations.

e. Provide equipment for pumping flood water out of buildings and from low-lying areas.
f. Assist with the removal of caravans.
g. Provide back-up radio communications.
h. Assist with clean-up operations, including the hosing of flood affected properties.
i. Deploy fire resources to appropriate locations if access is expected to be lost.

1.5.22 Office of Environment and Heritage

a. Provide specialist policy, engineering and scientific advice to councils and the NSW SES on flood related matters including assistance with;
   • The identification of flood problems.
   • The preparation of Floodplain Risk Management Plans and associated studies.
   • The implementation of floodplain risk management plans. This involves floodplain management projects which include flood mitigation works, flood warning, strategic land use planning and upgrade of evacuation routes.
   • The exercising of Local Flood Plans.

b. Provide specialist advice flood related matters as follows:
   • Provide the NSW SES with access to relevant studies regarding flooding, including Flood Studies and Floodplain Risk Management Studies.
   • Coordinate the collection of post event flood data, in consultation with the NSW SES.
   • Provide advice to the NSW SES about conditions which may lead to coastal flooding or retarded river drainage near the coast.
   • Collect and maintain flood data relating to flood heights, velocities and discharges in coastal areas of NSW (through a contract with MHL as discussed separately).
   • Provide data to the Bureau of Meteorology and NSW SES real-time or near real-time access to river height gauges and height data for the development of official flood warnings (through a contract with MHL as described in the Response section of this plan).

c. Parks and Wildlife Service
   • Close and reopen Parks and Wildlife Service roads when affected by flood waters and advise the NSW SES of its status.
   • Facilitate the safe reliable access of emergency resources on National Parks and Wildlife Service managed roads.
   • Assist the NSW SES with identification of road infrastructure at risk of flooding.
• Manage traffic on Parks and Wildlife Service roads.
• Assist the NSW SES with the communication of warnings and information provision to the public through variable message signs and other appropriate means.

1.5.23 Owners of Prescribed Dams within or upstream of Wellington

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dam</th>
<th>Owner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burrendong Dam</td>
<td>State Water</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a. Maintain and operate the Dam Failure Warning System for their Dam(s).
b. Contribute to the development and implementation of community engagement and capacity building programs on flooding.
c. Consult with NSW SES on the determination of dam failure alert levels and notification arrangements when developing Dam Safety Emergency Plans.
d. Maintain a Dam Safety Emergency Plan and provide copies to the NSW SES.
e. Provide information on the consequences of dam failure to the NSW SES for incorporation into planning and flood intelligence.
f. Close and evacuate at risk camping grounds/recreational areas within their managed areas.

1.5.24 Public Information Services Functional Area

a. When requested by NSW SES;
   • Assist the NSW SES in the establishment and operation of a Joint Media Information Centre.

1.5.25 Roads and Maritime Services

a. Manage traffic on state roads, state highways and waterways affected by flood waters and advise the NSW SES of their status including the Mitchell Highway.
b. Facilitate the safe reliable access of emergency resources on RMS managed roads.
c. Assist the NSW SES with identification of road infrastructure at risk of flooding.
d. Assist in Traffic management associated with evacuations where necessary.
e. Enter state road closure information into the Live Traffic site.
f. Assist the NSW SES and local councils with the communication of warnings and information provision to the public through variable message signs.
g. Cooperate with the Macquarie Region Transport Services Functional Area Coordinator.
1.5.26 **School Administration Offices (including Catholic Education Office Bathurst, Department of Education Dubbo and Private Schools)**

a. Liaise with the NSW SES and arrange for the early release of students whose travel arrangements are likely to be disrupted by flooding and/or road closures (or where required, for students to be moved to a suitable location until normal school closing time).

b. Pass information to school bus drivers/companies and/or other schools on expected or actual impacts of flooding.

c. Assist with coordinating the evacuation of schools when flooding or isolation is expected to occur.

d. Provide space in schools for evacuation centres where necessary.

1.5.27 **Telecommunication Services Functional Area**

a. When requested by NSW SES;
   - Coordinate the restoration of telephone facilities damaged by flooding.
   - Assist the NSW SES to identify infrastructure at risk of flooding for incorporation into planning and intelligence.

1.5.28 **The Wellington Transport Services Functional Area Coordinator (TSFAC)**

a. The TSFAC will assist NSW SES, emergency services and other functional areas through the provision of transport services, including;
   - The movement of emergency equipment and personnel.
   - The movement of emergency supplies and goods, including water, fuel and food.
   - The evacuation of people and animals.
   - Assistance for medical transport.
   - Transportation of animals and infectious material/dangerous goods.
   - Maintaining and operating a transport route advisory service to the NSW SES, emergency services organisations and other Functional Areas and members of the community.

1.5.29 **NSW Train Link and Sydney Trains**

a. Operate NSW regional and interstate rail services through the Wellington LGA including the management of railway services affected by flood waters and advise the NSW SES.

b. Assist the NSW SES with the movement or evacuation of people during flood response operations if required.

c. Convey flood information and flood warnings to passengers and travellers on NSW trains.
d. Cooperate with, and assist the NSW SES Local Controller in relation to public safety during flood emergencies.

e. Cooperate with the Wellington Transport Services Functional Area Coordinator.

1.5.30 Welfare Services Functional Area

a. When requested by NSW SES;
   - Establish and manage evacuation centres, and provide disaster welfare services from recovery centres.
   - Administer the Personal Hardship and Distress component of the NSW Disaster Relief Scheme established to provide financial assistance to people affected by emergencies.

1.5.31 Volunteer Rescue Association (VRA), Burrendong Dam

a. Assist the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller with flood operations, where equipment and training are suitable.

1.5.32 Wellington Aboriginal Land Council

a. Act as the point of contact between the NSW SES and the Nanima community.

b. Inform the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller about flood conditions and response needs.

c. Disseminate flood information, including flood and evacuation warnings, to the Nanima community.

1.5.33 Bell River Farmers Network

a. Provide flood information to the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller.

b. Distribute flood warnings and flood information provided by the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller.

1.6 CROSS-BORDER ASSISTANCE ARRANGEMENTS

1.6.1 A local cross-border mutual assistance arrangement exists in which the NSW SES Wellington and the NSW SES Peak Hill (NSW SES Lachlan Region) will deploy resources to support each other. Operations involving the Wellington area south of Little River will be conducted by the Peak Hill SES Unit if Wellington SES Unit cannot access the area due to road closures.

1.6.2 A local cross-border mutual assistance arrangement exists in which the NSW SES Wellington and the NSW SES Molong (NSW SES Central West Region) will deploy resources to support each other. Operations involving Cumnock and Yeoval area will be conducted by the NSW SES Wellington Unit when the road is closed between Molong and these two towns.

1.6.3 A local cross-border mutual assistance arrangement exists in which the NSW SES Mudgee will provide support in case of the evacuation of Wellington to Mudgee due to the failure of Burrendong Dam or an extreme flood event.
PART 2 - PREPAREDNESS

2.1 MAINTENANCE OF THIS PLAN

2.1.1 The NSW SES Wellington Local Controller will maintain the currency of this plan by;
   a. Ensuring that all agencies, organisations and officers mentioned in it are aware of their roles and responsibilities.
   b. Conducting exercises to test arrangements.
   c. Reviewing the contents of the plan;
      • After each flood operation.
      • When significant changes in land-use or community characteristics occur.
      • When new information from flood studies become available.
      • When flood control or mitigation works are implemented or altered.
      • When there are changes that alter agreed plan arrangements.

2.1.2 The plan is to be reviewed no less frequently than every five years.

2.2 FLOODPLAIN RISK MANAGEMENT

2.2.1 The NSW SES Wellington Local Controller will ensure that;
   a. NSW SES participates in local floodplain risk management committee activities when those committees are formed, in accordance with the protocols outlined in the NSW SES Controllers’ Guide.
   b. The NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters is informed of involvement in floodplain risk management activities.

2.3 DEVELOPMENT OF FLOOD INTELLIGENCE

2.3.1 Flood intelligence describes flood behaviour and its effects on the community.

2.3.2 The NSW SES maintains a centralised flood intelligence system.

2.4 DEVELOPMENT OF WARNING SYSTEMS

2.4.1 The NSW SES establishes total flood warning systems for areas affected by flooding. This requires;
   a. An identification of the potential clients of flood warning information at different levels of flooding (i.e. who would be affected in floods of differing severities).
b. Available information about the estimated impacts of flooding at different heights.

c. Identification of required actions and the amounts of time needed to carry them out.

d. Appropriate means of disseminating warnings to different clients and at different flood levels.

2.5 COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

2.5.1 The community needs to be as prepared as emergency agencies for the impact of all hazards (5), including flooding.

2.5.2 As the combat agency, NSW SES has the primary responsibility for the collation, assessment and public dissemination of information relating to flooding (2). To do this, NSW SES will require assistance from other agencies, particularly local government councils, dam owners, and the Bureau in the development and delivery of materials.

2.5.3 The NSW SES Wellington Local Controller, with the assistance of NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters and NSW SES State Headquarters, is responsible for the collation, assessment and public dissemination of information relating to flooding (2).

2.5.4 A range of tailored strategies to be employed with NSW communities include:

   a. Dissemination of flood-related brochures and booklets in flood liable areas.

   b. Talks and displays orientated to at-risk groups, community organisations, businesses and schools.

   c. Publicity given to this plan and to flood-orientated NSW SES activities through local media outlets, including articles in local newspapers about the flood threat and appropriate responses.

2.6 TRAINING

2.6.1 Throughout this document there are references to functions that must be carried out by the members of the NSW SES Wellington Unit. The NSW SES Wellington Local Controller is responsible for ensuring that the members are;

   a. Familiar with the contents of this plan.

   b. Trained in the skills necessary to carry out the tasks allocated to the NSW SES.

2.7 RESOURCES

2.7.1 The NSW SES Wellington Local Controller is responsible for maintaining the condition and state of readiness of NSW SES equipment and the NSW SES Wellington Local Headquarters.
PART 3 - RESPONSE

CONTROL

3.1 CONTROL ARRANGEMENTS

3.1.1 The NSW SES is the legislated Combat Agency for floods and is responsible for the control of flood operations. This includes the coordination of other agencies and organisations for flood management tasks.

3.1.2 The Local EMPLAN will operate to provide support as requested by the NSW SES Local Incident Controller.

3.2 OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT

3.2.1 NSW SES utilises the Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System (AIIMS), which is based on five principles;
   a. Flexibility
   b. Management by objectives
   c. Functional management
   d. Unity of Command
   e. Span of control.

3.2.2 AIIMS provides for different incident levels based on the complexity of management.

3.2.3 The Local Government Area may be divided into sectors and divisions to manage the flood event (divisions are usually a group of sectors).

3.2.4 Sectors and divisions may be based on floodplain classifications, geographical, physical or functional boundaries. A town, city or suburb may be one sector or split into several sectors and divisions.

3.3 START OF RESPONSE OPERATIONS

3.3.1 This plan is always active to ensure that preparedness actions detailed in this plan are completed.

3.3.2 Response operations will begin;
   a. On receipt of a Bureau of Meteorology Preliminary Flood Warning, Flood Warning, Flood Watch, Severe Thunderstorm Warning or a Severe Weather Warning for flash flooding.
   b. On receipt of a dam failure alert.
   c. When other evidence leads to an expectation of flooding within the council area.
3.3.3 Contact with the Bureau of Meteorology to discuss the development of flood warnings will normally be through the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters and/or NSW SES State Headquarters.

3.3.4 The following persons and organisations will be advised of the start of response operations regardless of the location and severity of the flooding anticipated:
   a. NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters.
   b. NSW SES Wellington Local Controller.
   c. NSW SES Wellington Unit.
   d. Wellington Local Emergency Operations Controller (for transmission to the NSW Police Force Local Area Command Headquarters).
   e. Wellington Local Emergency Management Officer (for transmission to appropriate council officers and departments).
   f. Wellington Council Mayor.
   g. Other agencies listed in this plan will be advised by the Local Emergency Management Officer on the request of the NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller and as appropriate to the location and nature of the threat.

3.4 RESPONSE STRATEGIES

3.4.1 The main response strategies for NSW SES flood operations include;
   a. Information Provision and Warning
      • Provision of warnings, information and advice to communities.
      • Inform the community regarding the potential impacts of a flood and what actions to undertake in preparation for flooding.
      • Provide timely and accurate information to the community.
   b. Property protection
      • Protect the property of residents and businesses at risk of flood damage.
      • Assistance with the protection of essential infrastructure.
      • Assistance, where resources are available, with property protection by way of sandbagging and the lifting or transporting of furniture, personal effects, commercial stock and caravans.
   c. Evacuation
      • Evacuation is a risk management strategy that may be used to mitigate the effects of an emergency on a community. It involves the movement of people to a safer location and their return. For an evacuation to be effective it must be appropriately planned and implemented (7).
d. **Flood Rescue**
   - The rescue or safe retrieval of persons or animals trapped by floodwaters.

e. **Resupply**
   - Minimise disruption upon the community by resupplying towns and villages which have become isolated as a consequence of flooding.
   - Ensure supplies are maintained to property owners by coordinating the resupply of properties which have become isolated as a consequence of flooding.

### 3.4.2
The NSW SES Local Incident Controller will select the appropriate response strategy to deal with the expected impact of the flood in each sector and/or community. The impact may vary so a number of different strategies may need to be selected and implemented across the whole operational area. The available strategies for each sector and/or community are maintained by the NSW SES.

### 3.4.3
Supporting agency strategies may include;

a. Protect the community from incidents involving fire and hazardous materials.

b. Maintain the welfare of communities and individuals affected by the impact of a flood.

c. Minimise disruption to the community by ensuring supply of essential energy and utility services.

d. Ensure coordinated health services are available to and accessible by the flood affected communities.

e. Maintain the welfare of animals affected by the impact of a flood.

### 3.5 OPERATIONS CENTRES

#### 3.5.1
The NSW SES Wellington Operations Centre is located at the Corner of Gisborne and Arthur Street, Wellington.

#### 3.5.2
Supporting EOCs are located at;

a. The Wellington Emergency Operations Centre is located at the Corner of Gisborne and Arthur Street, Wellington.

### 3.6 LIAISON

#### 3.6.1
Any agency with responsibilities identified in this plan may be requested by the NSW SES to provide liaison (including a liaison officer where necessary) to the NSW SES Wellington Operations Centre, or designated Emergency Operations Centre.
3.6.2 In accordance with NSW EMPlan, Liaison officers will;

a. Maintain communication with and convey directions/requests to their organisation or functional area;

b. Provide advice on the status, resource availability, capabilities, actions and requirements of their organisation or functional area, and

c. Where appropriate, have the authority to deploy the resources of their parent organisation at the request of the NSW SES Local Incident Controller.

3.7 END OF RESPONSE OPERATIONS

3.7.1 When the immediate danger to life and property has passed the NSW SES Region Incident Controller or the NSW SES Local Incident Controller will issue an 'All Clear' message signifying that response operations have been completed. The message will be distributed through the same media outlets as earlier evacuation messages. The relevant Controller will also advise details of recovery coordination arrangements, arrangements made for clean-up operations prior to evacuees being allowed to return to their homes, and stand-down instructions for agencies not required for recovery operations.

PLANNING

3.8 COLLATING SITUATIONAL INFORMATION

Strategy

3.8.1 The NSW SES maintains and records situational awareness of current impacts and response activities.

Actions

3.8.2 The NSW SES Wellington Local Headquarters collates information on the current situation in the Wellington LGA and incorporates in Situation Reports.

3.8.3 The NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters collates Region-wide information for inclusion in NSW SES Region Situation Reports.

3.8.4 Sources of situational information during times of flooding are:

a. **Agency Situation Reports.** Agencies and functional areas provide regular situation reports (SITREPs) to the NSW SES.

b. **Active Reconnaissance.** The NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller is responsible for coordinating the reconnaissance of impact areas, recording and communicating observations. Reconnaissance can be performed on the ground and using remote sensing (more commonly aerial). The NSW SES monitors the following problem areas:

   - Montefiores Area – access is lost early.
c. **The Bureau of Meteorology**'s Flood Warning Centre provides river height and rainfall information, data is available on the website http://www.bom.gov.au/nsw/flood/.

d. **NSW Office of Water.** This office advises flow rates and rates of rise for the Macquarie and Bell Rivers. Daily river reports containing information on gauge heights and river flows are available from the website: http://waterinfo.nsw.gov.au/.

e. **Burrendong Dam Storage Monitoring System.** This system provides information on Burrendong Dam.

f. **NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters.** The Region Headquarters provides information on flooding and its consequences, including those in nearby council areas (this information is documented in Bulletins and Situation Reports).

g. **Wellington Council.**

3.8.5 During flood operations sources of information on roads closed by flooding include;

a. Wellington Council (website and or telephone service)

b. Orana Police Local Area Command.

c. Roads and Maritime Services (website and/or telephone service).

d. NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters - for internal use only.

e. NSW SES Wellington Local Headquarters - for internal use only.

3.8.6 Situational information relating to consequences of flooding should be used to verify and validate NSW SES Flood Intelligence records.

### 3.9 **PROVISION OF FLOOD INFORMATION AND WARNINGS**

**Strategy**

3.9.1 The NSW SES Wellington Local Headquarters provides advice to the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters on current and expected impacts of flooding in the Wellington LGA.

3.9.2 The NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters issues NSW SES Flood Bulletins, NSW SES Livestock and Equipment Warnings, Evacuation Warnings and Evacuation Orders to media outlets and agencies on behalf of all NSW SES units in the Region.

**Actions**

3.9.3 The NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller will ensure that the NSW SES Macquarie Region Incident Controller is regularly briefed on the progress of operations.
3.9.4 NSW SES Wellington Local Headquarters operations staff will be briefed regularly so that they can provide information in response to inquiries received in person or by other means such as phone or fax.

3.9.5 **Bureau of Meteorology Severe Thunderstorm Warning**. These are issued direct to the media by the Bureau when severe thunderstorms are expected to produce dangerous or damaging conditions, including flash flooding. Severe thunderstorms are usually smaller in scale than events covered by Flood Watches and Severe Weather Warnings.

3.9.6 **Bureau of Meteorology Severe Weather Warnings for Flash Flooding**. These are issued direct to the media by the Bureau and provide a warning of the possibility for flash flooding as a result of intense rainfall. These warnings are issued when severe weather is expected to affect land based communities with 6 to 24 hours. Severe Weather Warnings may also include other conditions such as Damaging Winds.

3.9.7 **Bureau of Meteorology Flood Watches**. Flood Watches are issued by the Bureau to advise people of the potential for flooding in a catchment area based on predicted or actual rainfall. Flood Watches will be included in NSW SES Flood Bulletins issued by the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters.

3.9.8 **Bureau of Meteorology Flood Warnings**. The NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters will send a copy of Bureau Flood Warnings to the NSW SES Wellington Unit. On receipt the NSW SES Local Incident Controller will provide the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters with information on the estimated impacts of flooding at the predicted heights for inclusion in NSW SES Region Flood Bulletins.

3.9.9 **NSW SES Livestock and Equipment Warnings**. Following heavy rain or when there are indications of significant creek or river rises (even to levels below Minor Flood heights), the NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller will advise the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters which will issue NSW SES Livestock and Equipment Warnings.

3.9.10 **NSW SES Local Flood Advices**. The NSW SES Local Incident Controller may issue Local Flood Advices for locations not covered by Bureau Flood Warnings. They may be provided verbally in response to phone inquiries but will normally be incorporated into NSW SES Region Flood Bulletins.

3.9.11 **NSW SES Flood Bulletins**. The NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters will regularly issue NSW SES Flood Bulletins which describe information on the estimated impacts of flooding at the predicted heights (using information from Bureau Flood Warnings and NSW SES Local Flood Advices) to NSW SES units, media outlets and agencies on behalf of all NSW SES units in the Region.

3.9.12 **NSW SES Evacuation Warnings and Evacuation Orders**. These are usually issued to the media by the NSW SES Region Incident Controller on behalf of the NSW SES Local Incident Controller.
3.9.13 **Dam Failure Alerts.** Dam failure alerts are issued to NSW SES by the dam owner, in accordance with arrangements in the Dam Safety Emergency Plan (DSEP), the system involves the Dam Owner notifying NSW SES State Headquarters Operations Communications Centre, who in turn distribute the warning to the NSW SES Region Headquarters and NSW SES Unit Headquarters.

3.9.14 A flow chart illustrating the notification arrangements for potential dam failure is shown in Attachment 2.

3.9.15 Dam failure alert levels are set in consultation with the NSW SES and are used to trigger appropriate response actions. The conditions that define each of the alert levels are listed in the relevant DSEP. Responses escalate as the alert level migrates from white to amber to red. Table 1 briefly outlines example defining conditions and appropriate NSW SES responses associated with each alert.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Alert Level</th>
<th>Example Defining Condition</th>
<th>NSW SES Response</th>
<th>NSW SES Warning Product</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>May be a structural anomaly.</td>
<td>Implements notification flowchart.</td>
<td>This is a preliminary alert to assist the NSW SES in its preparation. This is not a public alert.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>May be increased monitoring in response to a heavy rainfall event</td>
<td>Check operational readiness.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amber</td>
<td>Failure possible if storage level continues to rise or structural anomaly not fixed</td>
<td>Implements notification flowchart.</td>
<td>NSW SES Evacuation Warning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Warn downstream population at risk to prepare to evacuate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>Failure imminent or occurred</td>
<td>Implements notification flowchart.</td>
<td>NSW SES Evacuation Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Evacuation of downstream populations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Dam Failure Alert Levels

Note: Some DSEPs will have alert levels that proceed directly from White to Red. This is the case if adequate time does not exist between the three alert levels to evacuate the downstream population at risk. The decision to omit the Amber Alert level, and the general setting of Alert levels should be undertaken in consultation with the NSW SES.

3.9.16 The NSW SES / Dam Owner will disseminate warnings to the population at risk of dam failure (these arrangements are specific to each dam, are negotiated between the Dam Owner and NSW SES, and are documented in the DSEP).

3.9.17 Special arrangements apply in the case of severe flooding that may have the potential to cause the failure of Burrendong Dam. Details of these arrangements are maintained by the NSW SES.
3.9.18 **Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS).** This signal may be played over radio and television stations to alert communities to Evacuation Warnings, Evacuation Orders, Special Warnings or Dam-Failure Warnings. Approval to use the signal is associated with who approves the warning/order message.

3.9.19 **The Public Information and Inquiry Centre (PIIC)** (operated by the NSW Police Force) will answer calls from the public regarding registered evacuees.

3.9.20 **The Disaster Welfare Assistance line** is a central support and contact point for disaster affected people inquiring about welfare services advice and assistance. This normally operates during business hours, but can be extended when required.

3.9.21 **The RMS Transport Information Line** will provide advice to callers on the status of roads. The RMS website also lists road closure information.

3.9.22 **Wellington Council** will provide information on the status of roads.

3.9.23 Collation and dissemination of road information is actioned as follows:

   a. As part of Situation Reports, the NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller provides road status reports for main roads in the council area to the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters.

   b. The NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters distributes information on main roads to NSW SES units, media outlets and agencies as part of NSW SES Flood Bulletins.

**OPERATIONS**

3.10 **AIRCRAFT MANAGEMENT**

3.10.1 Aircraft can be used for a variety of purposes during flood operations including evacuation, rescue, resupply, reconnaissance and emergency travel.

3.10.2 Air support operations will be conducted under the control of the NSW SES Region Headquarters, which may allocate aircraft to units if applicable.

3.10.3 NSW SES maintains the following information for the Wellington Council area;

   a. Locations of suitable helicopter landing points.

   b. Locations of suitable airports and records detailing aircraft size and type that can land at airports.

   c. Intelligence on when access to these locations is expected to be lost.

3.11 **ASSISTANCE FOR ANIMALS**

3.11.1 Matters relating to the welfare of livestock, companion animals and wildlife are to be referred to Agriculture and Animal Services.

3.11.2 Requests for emergency supply and/or delivery of fodder to stranded livestock, or for livestock rescue, are to be referred to Agriculture and Animal Services.
3.11.3 Requests for animal rescue should be referred to the NSW SES.

3.12 COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS

3.12.1 The primary means of communications between fixed locations is by telephone, email and facsimile.

3.12.2 The primary means of communication to and between deployed NSW SES resources is by GRN.

3.12.3 All liaison officers will provide their own communication links back to their parent agencies.

3.12.4 All other organisations will provide communications as necessary to their deployed field teams.

3.12.5 Back-up communications are provided as follows:
   a. A portable GRN repeater is available from the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters in Dubbo.
   b. If this fails, alternative assistance is available from:
      - NSW RFS – Orana Zone PMR and UHF radio networks
      - NSW Police Force operate on VHF radio network
      - The Burrendong VRA operates on UHF radio network
      - Wellington Council UHF/VHF radio network
      - Fire & Rescue NSW operate on GRN
      - NSW Ambulance Service operate on GRN

3.13 PRELIMINARY DEPLOYMENTS

3.13.1 When flooding is expected to be severe enough to cut road access to towns, within towns and/or rural communities, the NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller will ensure that resources are in place for the distribution of foodstuffs and medical supplies to the areas that could become isolated.

3.13.2 When access between locations is expected to be cut, the NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller will advise appropriate agencies so that resources (including sandbags, fire fighting appliances, ambulances, etc.) are deployed to ensure that operational capability is maintained.

3.14 ROAD AND TRAFFIC CONTROL

3.14.1 A number of roads within the council area are affected by flooding. NSW SES maintains details of these roads.

3.14.2 The council closes and re-opens its own roads and, acts as an agent for the RMS by closing and reopening the Mitchell Highway and the Renshaw McGirr Way.
3.14.3 The NSW Police Force has the authority to close and re-open roads but will normally only do so (if the Council or the RMS have not already acted) if public safety requires such action.

3.14.4 When resources permit, the NSW SES assists Council, RMS or the Police by erecting road closure signs and barriers.

3.14.5 In flood events, the NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller may direct the imposition of traffic control measures. The entry into flood affected areas will be controlled in accordance with the provisions of the State Emergency Service Act, 1989 (Part 5, Sections 19, 20, 21 and 22) and the State Emergency Rescue Management Act, 1989 (Part 4, Sections 60KA, 60L and 61).

3.14.6 Police, RMS or Council officers closing or re-opening roads or bridges affected by flooding are to advise the NSW SES Wellington Local Headquarters, which will then provide a road information service to local emergency services, the public and the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters. All such information will also be passed to the Police, RMS and the Council.

3.15 STRANDED TRAVELLERS

3.15.1 Flood waters can strand travellers. Travellers seeking assistance will be referred to the Welfare Services Functional Area for the arrangement of emergency accommodation.

3.16 MANAGING PROPERTY PROTECTION OPERATIONS

**Strategy**

3.16.1 Protect the property of residents and businesses at risk of flood damage.

**Actions**

3.16.2 The NSW SES is the responsible agency for the coordination of operations to protect property.

3.16.3 Property may be protected from floods by;

a. Lifting or moving of household furniture.

b. Lifting or moving commercial stock and equipment.

c. Sandbagging to minimise entry of water into buildings.

3.16.4 The NSW SES Wellington Headquarters maintains a small stock of sandbags, and back-up supplies are available through the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters. A motorised sandbag-filling machine is available from NSW SES Dubbo and NSW SES Mudgee units. Alternatively, local concrete trucks may be used.

3.16.5 Property protection options are however very limited in the Wellington LGA due to the large number of properties that can be affected and the depth of floodwaters arising from severe flooding on the Macquarie River.
3.17 MANAGING FLOOD RESCUE OPERATIONS

Strategy

3.17.1 Rescue of people and animals from floods.

Actions

3.17.2 The NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller controls flood rescue in Wellington LGA during a flood emergency.

3.17.3 Flood rescues, may be carried out by accredited units in accordance with appropriate standards.

3.17.4 Additional flood boats and crews can be requested through the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters.

3.17.5 There may be some residual population which did not evacuate during the early stages of flooding and which require rescue.

3.18 MANAGING EVACUATION OPERATIONS

Strategy

3.18.1 When there is a risk to public safety, evacuation is the primary strategy. Circumstances may include;

a. Evacuation of people when their homes or businesses are likely to flood.

b. Evacuation of people who are unsuited to living in isolated circumstances, due to flood water closing access.

c. Evacuation of people where essential energy and utility services are likely to fail, have failed or where buildings have been made uninhabitable.

Actions

3.18.2 The evacuation operation will have the following stages:

a. Decision to evacuate.

b. Mobilisation (mobilisation may begin prior to the decision to evacuate).

c. Evacuation Warning delivery.

d. Evacuation Order delivery.

e. Withdrawal.

f. Shelter.

g. Return.

3.18.3 During floods evacuations will be controlled by the NSW SES. Small-scale evacuations will be controlled by the NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller. Should the scale of evacuation operations be beyond the capabilities of local resources control may be escalated to the NSW SES Macquarie Region Incident Controller.
Decision to evacuate

3.18.4 In most cases the decision to evacuate rests with the NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller who exercises his/her authority in accordance with Section 22(1) of The State Emergency Service Act 1989. However, the decision to evacuate will usually be made after consultation with the NSW SES Macquarie Region Incident Controller and the Local Emergency Operations Controller.

3.18.5 In events that require large scale evacuations, the decision to evacuate may be escalated to the Region or the State Incident Controller.

3.18.6 Some people will make their own decision to evacuate earlier and move to alternate accommodation, using their own transport. This is referred to as self-managed evacuation (8).

Mobilisation

3.18.7 The NSW SES Local Incident Controller will request the following personnel for doorknock teams for designated Sectors/locations:

a. NSW SES Wellington Unit members.

b. RFS Orana District members via the RFS Fire Control Officer.

c. Local Police Force officers via the Local Area Command.

3.18.8 The NSW SES Macquarie Region Incident Controller will request any additional personnel required to assist with doorknock teams using;

a. NSW SES members from the NSW SES Macquarie Region and surrounding NSW SES Regions.

b. FRNSW personnel arranged via the FRNSW Liaison Officer.

c. RFS personnel arranged via the RFS Liaison Officer.

3.18.9 The NSW SES Local Incident Controller will request the Chairperson of the LEMC to provide Council personnel to assist with traffic coordination within Sector(s)/Community.

3.18.10 The NSW SES Local Incident Controller will arrange liaison officers for Sector Command Centres.

3.18.11 The NSW SES Macquarie Region Operations Controller will request the required number of buses for Sectors via the Transport Services Functional Area.

Delivery of Evacuation Warnings and Evacuation Orders

3.18.12 The NSW SES will advise the community of the requirements to evacuate. The NSW SES will issue an **Evacuation Warning** when the intent of an NSW SES Incident Controller is to warn the community of the need to prepare for a possible evacuation.
3.18.13 The NSW SES will issue an **Evacuation Order** when the intent of the NSW SES Incident Controller is to instruct a community to immediately evacuate in response to an imminent threat.

3.18.14 The NSW SES Local Incident Controller will distribute Evacuation Warnings and Evacuation Orders to:
   a. Sector/Division Command Centres (where established).
   b. Wellington Local Emergency Operations Centre.
   c. Wellington Council.
   d. Orana Police Local Area Command.
   e. Orana Rural Fire Service Control Centre.
   f. Radio Stations.
   g. Other local agencies and specified individuals.

3.18.15 The NSW SES Macquarie Region Incident Controller will distribute Evacuation Warnings and Evacuation Orders to:
   a. The NSW SES State Operations Centre.
   b. The NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller.
   c. Metropolitan media outlets via the Joint Media Information Centre.
   d. Affected communities via dial-out warning systems where installed or applicable.
   e. Relevant media outlets and agencies.

3.18.16 Evacuation Warnings and Evacuation Orders may be delivered through:
   a. Radio and television stations.
   b. Doorknocking by emergency service personnel.
   c. Public address systems (fixed or mobile).
   d. Telephony-based systems (including Emergency Alert).
   e. Two-way Radio.
   f. Direct access to Radio Stations: ABC Western Plains, 2DU, ZooFM and StarFM.

3.18.17 The Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) may be used to precede all Evacuation Orders broadcast on Radio Stations.

3.18.18 Doorknock teams will work at the direction of:
   a. The Sector Commander if a Sector Command Centre is established.
   b. The relevant Division Commander where a Sector Command Centre has not been established.
   c. The Local Incident Controller.
3.18.19 Field teams conducting doorknocks will record and report back the following information to their Sector Commander/DIVision Commander/Local Incident Controller;
   a. Addresses and locations of houses doorknocked and/or evacuated.
   b. The number of occupants.
   c. Details of support required (such as transport, medical evacuation, assistance to secure house and/or property and raise or move belongings).
   d. Details of residents who refuse to comply with the Evacuation Order.

3.18.20 Refusal to evacuate. Field teams cannot afford to waste time dealing with people who are reluctant or refuse to comply with any Evacuation Order. These cases are to be referred to the NSW Police Force.

Withdrawal

3.18.21 Evacuations will generally be carried out in stages starting from the lowest areas, low flood islands and low trapped perimeters; and progressively from higher areas.

3.18.22 The most desirable method of evacuation is via road using private transport. This may be supplemented by buses for car-less people. However, other means of evacuation may also be used if available and as necessary (e.g. by foot, rail, air).

3.18.23 Evacuees who require emergency accommodation or disaster welfare assistance will be directed to designated evacuation centres. Evacuees who have made their own accommodation arrangements will not be directed to evacuation centres. It is not possible to determine in advance how many will fall into this category.

3.18.24 Evacuees will:
   a. Move under local traffic arrangements from the relevant Sectors/Community;
   b. Continue along the suburban/regional/rural road network to allocated Evacuation Centres.

3.18.25 Health Services. The Health Services Functional Area will coordinate the evacuation of hospitals, health centres and aged care facilities (including nursing homes).

3.18.26 Schools. School administration offices (Department of Education, Catholic Education Office and Private Schools) will coordinate the evacuation of schools if not already closed.

3.18.27 If there is sufficient time between the start of response operations and the evacuation of communities, the NSW SES Macquarie Region Incident Controller will discuss the temporary closure of appropriate schools with the Regional Director, Department of Education. This will enable pupils to stay at home or be returned home so they can be evacuated (if required) with their families.
3.18.28 Note that in the Wellington LGA, school principals may close some schools affected by flooding in the early stages of flooding.

3.18.29 **Caravan parks.** When an evacuation order is given occupiers of moveable dwellings should:

a. Isolate power to moveable dwellings.
b. Collect personal papers, medicines, a change of clothing, toiletries and bedclothes.
c. Lift the other contents in any remaining dwellings as high as possible.
d. Move to friends, relatives or a designated evacuation centre if they have their own transport, or move to the caravan office to await transport.
e. If undertaking self-managed evacuation, register their movements with the caravan park management upon leaving the park.

3.18.30 Where possible, dwellings that can be moved will be relocated by their owners. Park managers will arrange for the relocation of moveable dwellings as required. Council and NSW SES personnel may assist if required.

3.18.31 Caravan park managers will ensure that their caravan park is capable of being evacuated in a timely and safe manner.

3.18.32 Advise the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller of:

a. The number of people requiring transport.
b. Details of any medical evacuations required.
c. Whether additional assistance is required to effect the evacuation.

3.18.33 Check that all residents and visitors are accounted for.

3.18.34 Inform the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller when the evacuation of the caravan park has been completed.

3.18.35 Provide the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller with a register of people that have been evacuated.

3.18.36 **Assistance Animals, Pets and Companion Animals of Evacuees:** Assistance animals (guide dogs, hearing assistance animals, etc.) will remain in the care of their owners throughout the evacuation. This includes transport and access into evacuation centres etc. Due to safety restrictions, it may not be possible to allow companion animals to accompany their owners when being transported via aircraft or flood rescue boats. Agriculture and Animal Services will make separate arrangements for the evacuation and care of companion animals.

3.18.37 **Transport and storage:** Transport and storage of furniture from flood threatened properties will be arranged as time and resources permit.

3.18.38 **Security:** The NSW Police Force will coordinate the provision of overall security for evacuated areas.
3.18.39 The NSW SES Local Incident Controller is to provide the following reports to the NSW SES Macquarie Region Headquarters:
   a. Advice of commencement of the evacuation of each Sector,
   b. Half-hourly progress reports (by Sectors) during evacuations,
   c. Advice of completion of the evacuation of each Sector.

3.18.40 Assembly areas: An assembly area is a designated location used for the assembly of emergency-affected persons before they move to temporary accommodation or a nominated evacuation centre. As such these areas do not provide welfare assistance nor are they used for long term sheltering or provision of meals. An assembly area may also be a prearranged, strategically placed area, where support response personnel, vehicles and other equipment can be held in readiness for use during an emergency.

Shelter

3.18.41 Evacuation centres: Evacuees will be advised to go to friends or relatives, or else be taken to the nearest accessible evacuation centre, which may initially be established at the direction of the NSW SES Wellington Local Incident Controller, but managed as soon as possible by Welfare Services.

3.18.42 The following locations are suitable for use as flood evacuation centres:
   a. Wellington Soldiers Club 75 Arthur St, Wellington NSW 2820

3.18.43 Registration: The NSW Police Force will facilitate the requirement of Disaster Victim Registration for people evacuated to designated evacuation centres.

3.18.44 Animal shelter compounds: Animal shelter compounds will be set up for the domestic pets and companion animals of evacuees if required. Facilities will be managed by Agriculture and Animal Services.

Return

3.18.45 The NSW SES Local Incident Controller will advise when return to evacuated areas is safe after flood waters have receded and reliable access is available.

3.18.46 The NSW SES Local Incident Controller will determine when it is safe for evacuees to return to their homes in consultation with:
   a. The Recovery Coordinating Committee (if established)
   b. Welfare Services Functional Area Coordinator (welfare of evacuees)
   c. Engineering Services Functional Area Coordinator (safety of buildings, structural integrity of levees/dams)
   d. Health Service Functional Area Coordinator (public health)
   e. Transport Services Functional Areas Coordinator (arrangement of transport)
   f. The Wellington LEOCON
   g. The Wellington Council
h. NSW SES Region Incident Controller
i. Other appropriate agencies/functional areas as required (mitigation and advice regarding identified risks resulting from the flood event).

3.18.47 Once it is considered safe to do so, the NSW SES Incident Controller will authorise the return of evacuees.

3.18.48 The return will be controlled by the NSW SES Local Incident Controller and may be conducted, at their request, by the Recovery Coordinator.

3.19 MANAGING RESUPPLY OPERATIONS

3.19.1 The NSW SES is responsible for the coordination of the resupply of isolated communities and properties.

3.19.2 If isolation is expected to occur, residents should be encouraged to consider their needs and suitability for an unknown period of isolation.

3.19.3 If properties/communities are going to remain in locations expected to become isolated, households/retailers should be encouraged to stock up on essential supplies.

3.19.4 Where practicable, once supplies are delivered to the NSW SES designated loading point, the NSW SES Local Incident Controller will arrange for the delivery of essential foodstuffs, fuels or urgent medical supplies required by an isolated property or community.

3.19.5 All reasonable efforts will be made to deliver supplies, however where necessary the NSW SES will prioritise the delivery of items.

Resupply of Isolated Towns and Villages

Strategy

3.19.6 Minimise disruption upon the community by resupplying towns and villages which have become isolated as a consequence of flooding.

Actions

3.19.7 The NSW SES is responsible for the coordination of the resupply of isolated communities.

3.19.8 If flood predictions indicate that areas are likely to become isolated, the NSW SES Local Incident Controller should advise retailers that they should stock up.

3.19.9 When isolation occurs, retailers will be expected to place orders with suppliers where they have a line of credit and to instruct those suppliers to package their goods and deliver them to loading points designated by the NSW SES.

3.19.10 The NSW SES is prepared to deliver mail to isolated communities but may not be able to do so according to normal Australia Post timetables.

3.19.11 The NSW SES will assist hospitals with resupply of linen and other consumables where able.
Resupply of Isolated Properties

**Strategy**

3.19.12 Ensure supplies are maintained to properties by coordinating the resupply of properties which have become isolated as a consequence of flooding.

**Actions**

3.19.13 The resupply of isolated properties is a common requirement during floods and coordination can be difficult because requests can emanate from a variety of sources. Isolated properties may call their suppliers direct, place their orders through their own social networks or contact the NSW SES.

3.19.14 The principles to be applied when planning for the resupply of isolated properties are;

a. The NSW SES will coordinate resupply and establish a schedule.

b. Some isolated households will not have the ability to purchase essential grocery items due to financial hardship. If an isolated household seeks resupply from the NSW SES and claims to be, or is considered to be, in dire circumstances, he/she is to be referred to Welfare Services for assessment of eligibility. Where financial eligibility criteria are met, Welfare Services will assist with the purchase of essential grocery items. Welfare Services will deliver the essential grocery items to the NSW SES designated loading point for transport.

c. Local suppliers will liaise with the NSW SES regarding delivery of resupply items to the designated loading point.

d. Local suppliers are responsible for packaging resupply items for delivery.

3.19.15 A flowchart illustrating the Resupply process is shown in Attachment 1. Please note that the flowchart outlines the resupply process but does not encompass all potential situations and/or outcomes.
PART 4 - RECOVERY

4.1 RECOVERY COORDINATION AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

4.1.1 The NSW SES Wellington Local Controller will ensure that planning for long-term recovery operations begins at the earliest opportunity, initially through briefing the Local Emergency Management Committee (LEMC). As soon as possible the LEMC will meet to discuss recovery implications including the need for a Local Recovery Committee. The LEMC will consider any impact assessment in determining the need for recovery arrangements. This is conveyed in the first instance to the State Emergency Operations Controller (SEOCON) for confirmation with the State Emergency Recovery Controller (SERCON).

4.1.2 Once the need for recovery has been identified, the SERCON, in consultation with the SEOCON, may recommend the appointment of a Local Recovery Coordinator and nominate an appropriate candidate to the Minister for Emergency Services.

4.1.3 The SERCON may send a representative to the LEMC and subsequent recovery meetings to provide expert recovery advice and guidance.

4.1.4 The NSW SES Wellington Local Controller and Local Emergency Operations Controller (LEOCON) attend recovery meetings to provide an overview of the emergency response operation.

4.1.5 The NSW SES Region Incident Controller, the Regional Emergency Management Officer and appropriate Regional Functional Area Coordinators will be invited to the initial local meeting and to subsequent meetings as required.

4.1.6 The recovery committee will:
   a. Develop and maintain a Recovery Action Plan with an agreed exit strategy.
   b. Monitor and coordinate the activities of agencies with responsibility for the delivery of services during recovery.
   c. Ensure that relevant stakeholders, especially the communities affected, are involved in the development and implementation of recovery objectives and strategies and are informed of progress made.
   d. Provide the SERCON with an end of recovery report.
   e. Ensure the recovery is in line with the National Principles of Disaster Recovery and the NSW tenets.

4.2 RECOVERY COORDINATION AT THE REGION AND STATE LEVEL

4.2.1 In the event that an emergency affects several local areas, a Region Emergency Management Committee (REMC) will meet to discuss recovery implications including the need for a Region Recovery Committee. This is
conveyed in the first instance to the SEOCON for confirmation with the SERCON.

4.2.2 In the event of an emergency which affects multiple regions, or is of state or national consequence, or where complex, long term recovery and reconstruction is required, it may be necessary to establish a State Recovery Committee and the appointment of a State Recovery Coordinator.

4.3 ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEBRIEFS / AFTER ACTION REVIEWS

4.3.1 As soon as possible after flooding has abated, the NSW SES Wellington Local Controller will advise participating organisations of details of response operation after action review arrangements.

4.3.2 The NSW SES Wellington Local Controller will ensure that adequate arrangements are in place to record details of the after action review and each item requiring further action is delegated to an organisation or individual to implement.

4.3.3 Follow-up to ensure the satisfactory completion of these actions will be undertaken by the Wellington Local Emergency Management Committee.
ATTACHMENT 1 - RESUPPLY FLOWCHART

Please Note: The chart outlines the resupply process, but does not encompass all potential situations and outcomes.
ATTACHMENT 2 - DAM FAILURE ALERT NOTIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS FLOWCHART

Notification Arrangements for Potential Dam Failure

DAM OWNER/OPERATOR ISSUES WHITE/AMBER/RED ALERT

PRIMARY CONTACT

NSW SES State Operations Communications Centre (OCC)
Ph: (see note 4 below)

Confirmed message received and that appropriate support is being arranged

NSW SES Region HQ Operations Controller / After Hours Duty Officer

Regional Emergency Management Officers (REMOs)
Confirmed LEOCONs is aware of dam failure warning and that SES is Contact Agency

Confirmed message received and that appropriate support is being arranged

NSW SES Local Controllers / After Hours Duty Officer

Local Emergency Operations Controllers (LEOCONs)

Response Controlled through Local Flood Plans with reference to DSEP for potential inundation area

DUTY OFFICER, STATE EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE (SEOCC)
Ph: (see note 4 below)

Confirmed message received and that appropriate support is being arranged

ALTERNATE CONTACT (To be used ONLY if SES cannot be contacted)

NOTES:

1. Dam owners should only contact the SEOCC if the SES State Operations Communications Centre (OCC) cannot be contacted.

2. The first priority for notification is to contact the next SES HQ or the next level of EOC down the flowchart. The second notification should always be across the flow chart to confirm the message is received. If the first priority notification fails or is not picked up for any reason, the second priority notification should be made before any further attempts to contact the first priority (this is why an alternate or backup system of contacts is in place).

3. The triple zero (000) number for emergency services should not be used unless contact cannot be made with SES or the SEOCC, as it is likely the triple zero (000) operators will have difficulty dealing with the very unusual case of potential or actual dam failure.

4. Dam owners must contact the SES State Headquarters during the preparation of the DSEP to obtain the appropriate emergency contact numbers.
REFERENCES


HAZARD AND RISK IN WELLINGTON

Volume 2 of the Wellington Local Flood Plan
ANNEX A - THE FLOOD THREAT

Landforms and River Systems

1. **Macquarie River:** By convention the Macquarie River is taken as being formed above Bathurst at the confluence of the Fish and Campbell’s rivers. These two streams drain a high plateau consisting largely of undulating to hilly terrain. From Bathurst to Burrendong Dam the river is confined to a very narrow and steep sided valley. At the dam the Macquarie is joined from the north/north east by the Cudgegong River which rises in uplands above Rylstone and Kandos.

2. From Burrendong Dam the Macquarie flows North West through Wellington and widens, the river flats gradually becoming more extensive. In places they are several kilometres wide. Upon entering the broader, flatter valley, the river's cross-section becomes broader and shallower. To Wellington itself, the Macquarie River has a catchment area of 14,250 square kilometres. Floods on this river within the council area are considerably influenced by the mitigation effects of Burrendong Dam, 30 river kilometres above Wellington. Actual flows from the dam generally take 4-8 hours to reach the town but discharges are advised well beforehand.

3. **The Bell River:** Rises in the undulating country surrounding Mount Canobolas near Orange and drains a catchment area of 1,865 square kilometres. The catchment is comparatively steep and flood waters are confined mostly within the river channel until they reach Neurea (Newrea) Bridge, approximately 20 kilometres above Wellington. Overnight rain over the catchment can result in flooding next morning with the flood waters disappearing during the afternoon. Flow times on the Bell River are of the order of 16 hours from Molong and 6-8 hours from Neurea (Newrea).

4. Apart from the Bell, the only tributary of any significance joining the Macquarie within the council area is the Little River which joins from the south at Terra Bella. The Little River rises in undulating to hilly country west of Molong and flows north to the Macquarie upstream of Dubbo. It marks the western boundary of the Wellington Council area.

Storage Dams

1. **Burrendong Dam** is located on the Macquarie River just below its confluence with the Cudgegong River. The dam has a total catchment of 13,890sq.km. The town of Wellington is about 30 km downstream.

2. The dam construction is of a clay core, with earth and rock fill embankment, having a storage capacity of 1 188 000ML (344.73 mAHD). The dams flood storage level is 489 000 ML (350.83mAHD). Construction was completed in 1963.

3. The dam is estimated to be able to withstand a flood volume up to 70-80% of a PMF (Probable Maximum Flood) at the dam site. The flow in such a flood
would be vastly greater than has ever been recorded and would be extremely rare. Failure would add further to the previously-existing flow volume. As a strategy to prevent failure of the main dam wall, one of the saddle dams would be deliberately breached. This too would however, add to the seriousness of an already very severe flood downstream.


5. Dam failure arrangements are in Annex H.

6. Windamere Dam, which is located on the Cudgegong River 30 kilometres upstream of Mudgee, has a total storage capacity of 368GL and controls a catchment area of 1070 square kilometres. This represents about 7% of the catchment area at Wellington. The dam has no reserved storage capacity or operating rules to reduce flood flows. The small proportion of the total catchment which is controlled by the dam together with the absence of flood mitigation storage or operating rules mean that the dam has no significant effect on flood flows at Wellington.

Weather Systems and Flooding

1. Flooding can occur at any time of the year in the Wellington Council area, but floods are most common in the winter months. More than half of the recorded floods on the Bell River at Wellington have been in June, July or August, and there have also been more floods on the Macquarie River in these months than in any others. Nevertheless there is also a secondary flood season in mid to late summer, and the worst floods recorded at Wellington were in February 1955 and March 1956.

2. At different times of year, different mechanisms are responsible for producing floods. Three main types of weather system cause floods within the council area:

   a. **Well-developed low-pressure troughs** crossing southern Australia from west to east. Sequences of such troughs can produce high rainfall totals over a period of weeks, the flooding resulting not from individual rain events but from a cumulation of them. The August 1990 flood was preceded by significant rainfalls in April and July.

   b. **Cyclonic depressions** forming troughs extending from northern Australia and directing northerly streams of moist, unstable air into northern and central western NSW. Such systems, which occur during the warmer months, frequently produce intense short-period rainfalls leading to flooding. The record flood of February 1955 on the Macquarie River was of this origin.

   c. **High-intensity, short-duration convective thunderstorms** bringing very heavy rain causing 'flash' flooding on minor tributaries and the surcharging of artificial drainage systems in built-up areas. Such storms,
which affect small areas, are largely confined to the late spring, summer and early autumn months and do not create main-stream flooding.

**Characteristics of Flooding**

1. Flood behaviour can be described in terms of what happens in floods of differing severity and frequency. In the following descriptions of floods on the Bell and Macquarie rivers at Wellington, % AEP (Annual Exceedance Probability) figures are used. A flood of a particular % probability has that percentage chance of occurring in the vicinity of Wellington in any one year. The percentage value also corresponds with the average recurrence interval which is the average length of time which is estimated to elapse between floods of a given magnitude or higher. A 1% AEP flood, for example, will be experienced on average once in a 100-year period. In a particular 100-year period it could occur on several occasions or not at all. A 5% AEP flood occurs once in 20 years, on average.

2. The Macquarie River upstream of Wellington has an incised channel about 15 metres deep with a confined overbank area. For a 1% AEP flood, the width of flow would be 150 metres and flow velocities in excess of 2 metres per second. The difference in peak level between the 5% and 1% AEP floods is about 3 metres. See table A-2 for a conversion table between gauge heights and flood probabilities.

3. The Bell River, by comparison, has a much smaller channel, typically around 5 metres deep and 50 metres wide, but a much more extensive floodplain in the area between the Wellington Golf Course and the town of Wellington. The bank is overtopped in floods of the order of 10% AEP, and the floodplain is inundated to a depth of about 2 metres for floods of 5% AEP. For a 1% AEP flood the maximum depth of inundation on the left bank would be about 3 metres and the width of flow in excess of a kilometre. The difference in peak flood levels between the 5% and 1% AEP floods is only about a metre. For a 1% AEP flood, the flow velocity would be of the order of 1.0-1.2 metres per second in the channel and 0.5 metres per second on the floodplain. Backwater influences from the Macquarie River extend upstream as far as Maughan St, Wellington.

4. Flooding in Wellington itself is influenced by the magnitude and synchronisation of flows in the Macquarie and Bell rivers. Flood waters enter the town first by surcharging the banks of the Bell River either due to high flows in the Bell River alone, or in conjunction with backwater flooding from the Macquarie River. Flooding of the town does not occur in floods more frequent than about the 5% AEP level. The most severe flooding within the town occurs when high flows in the Bell River are backed up or held up by a major flood on the Macquarie River. This begins to happen when floods reach a height of 6.0 metres on the Maughan St gauge on the Bell River in Wellington.

5. Downstream of the confluence of the Bell and Macquarie rivers the floodplain of the Macquarie River becomes more extensive, with a width of around 800 metres for a 1% AEP flood to three kilometres at Terra Bella. The difference in peak levels between the 5% and 1% AEP floods on this reach would be about 3.2 metres. Flow velocities are generally higher than above the confluence,
reflecting the increase in bed slope, which averages one metre per kilometre. The maximum velocity in the channel would be experienced at a narrow section about one kilometre downstream of the confluence where the velocity would increase 2.5 to 3.2 metres per second between the 5% and 1% AEP floods.

**Flood History**

1. Flood heights have been recorded since 1913 at the Maughan St gauge for the Bell River. It should be noted that in 1984 the gauge at the old Maughan St Bridge was removed and installed at the new bridge. When floods exceed 5 metres on the new gauge, overflow from the Bell River begins to affect nearby development. A total of 29 floods above this height have been experienced since 1913.

2. **The August 1990 flood** on the Macquarie River was the third to occur in the April-August period that year and was the biggest flood experienced on the Macquarie at Wellington since the construction of Burrendong Dam. It is estimated to have been a 2% AEP event on the Macquarie River upstream of the confluence with the Bell River and about 300 millimetres below a 2% AEP flood on the Bell. A 1% flood on the Macquarie River would have been about 1.0m higher. On the Bell, there were seven bank-breaking floods between April and August 1990.

3. The flood in August 1990 provides an example of flood behaviour at Wellington under post-Burrendong conditions and when both the Macquarie and the Bell are in flood together. Significant releases from the dam began on 2 August. The water level at the gauge immediately below the dam, increased by 5 metres to its peak level over the 12-hour period to midnight that day. Flows were maintained at this level for 30 hours and gradually reduced by 2 metres over the following 18 hours.

4. At the Wellington gauge (Mitchell Highway) the flood level rose by 7 metres over the 12-hour period from midday to midnight on 2 August and was maintained within 2 metres of the peak until midday on 4 August. Subsequently, flood levels receded by a further 2.5 metres over the following 24 hours. On the Macquarie River, flood levels were maintained above the 5% AEP level for over 24 hours.

5. On the Bell River at Neurea (Newrea), the flood peaked at 6pm on 2 August, having risen from a low level over the preceding 12 hours. The flood peak arrived at Wellington about six hours later and reached 7.45 metres at the Maughan St gauge. Floodwaters at Maughan St rose by 5 metres to the peak over a period of 12 hours.
Flood Mitigation Systems

1. The principal mitigation structure of relevance to the Wellington area is Burrendong Dam. This dam commands 86% of the catchment of the Macquarie River at Wellington and has a total storage volume of 1680GL (gigalitres) of which 480GL is allocated to flood mitigation. This mitigation capacity represents approximately half the volume of runoff which passed the dam site in the February 1955 flood (which resulted in the highest recorded flood level this century on the Macquarie River at Wellington).

2. It is important to note that the ability of Burrendong Dam to reduce flood heights at Wellington depends partly on the level of the storage at the onset of the flood. If the dam is at full supply level, with only the planned mitigation storage available, the reduction in flood heights will be less than if it is empty. It is also important to realise that the dam cannot have any effect on flood flows in the Bell River and these, on their own, are capable of causing flooding at Wellington.

3. A rural flood mitigation scheme exists on the lower reaches of the Bell River in the area extending from the golf course to a location just upstream of the confluence with Curra Creek. This scheme aims to confine minor flood flows up to around the 30% AEP level in the main channel and in defined flood ways and depressions on the floodplain. It provides protection for up to 400 hectares of river flats under cultivation outside these flooded areas.

Extreme Flooding

1. The worst floods ever experienced in the Wellington Council area in living memory should not be regarded as the most severe which can occur there. Such floods will be rare, but they may reach considerably greater heights than have previously been experienced. In addition, they would be likely to be both faster to rise and more dangerous in terms of depth and velocity than previous events.
2. Estimates of extreme floods have been made as follows for Wellington:

**Case 1 Extreme:** a 0.002% AEP flood on Bell River in conjunction with a 1% AEP flood (14.02m on Macquarie Rv gauge) on the Macquarie River.

**Case 2 Extreme:** The outflow from Burrendong Dam when the level is just below the dam crest (0.002% AEP) in combination with a 1% AEP flood (18.13m on Bell River gauge at Wellington) on the Bell River. This case gives the more extreme flooding.

**Case 3 Extreme:** Burrendong dam failure. The dam has been assessed as being ‘deficient’ to the extent that it could fail in an extreme flood.

**Gauge Heights Compared to AEP/ARI**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AEP</th>
<th>ARI</th>
<th>Macquarie</th>
<th>Bell</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0.2%</td>
<td>1:500</td>
<td>15.99</td>
<td>9.74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td>1:200</td>
<td>14.9</td>
<td>8.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1:100</td>
<td>13.96</td>
<td>8.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1:50</td>
<td>13.18</td>
<td>7.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5%</td>
<td>1:20</td>
<td>10.92</td>
<td>7.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>1:10</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20%</td>
<td>1:5</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table A-2: Gauge height, AEP and ARI

Note: AEP – Annual Exceedance probability  
ARI – Average Recurrence Interval
ANNEX B - EFFECTS OF FLOODING ON THE COMMUNITY

Community Profile

1. The Wellington area covers Wellington Council has an area of 4113 square km, with a population in the Council LGA of 8,668 people (Table B1). It is located in the Central West Slopes of New South Wales, with the town of Wellington being 362 km by road from the centre of Sydney, and 48 km from Dubbo. Surrounding Councils are Mid-Western Regional, Cabonne Shire, Warrumbungle Shire and Dubbo City Councils.

2. Employment – the largest areas of employment in the LGA are in agriculture (beef, sheep, wheat, vineyards, and poultry) the production of agricultural machinery and tourism as well as the provision of community services. A new Security prison has been constructed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Census Description</th>
<th>LGA</th>
<th>Wellington</th>
<th>Geurie</th>
<th>Rural</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Persons</td>
<td>8668</td>
<td>4674</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>3056</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Dwellings</td>
<td>3719</td>
<td>2158</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>1375</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons aged 65 years and over</td>
<td>1398</td>
<td>929</td>
<td>59</td>
<td>410</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons aged below 15 years</td>
<td>1992</td>
<td>1131</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons of indigenous origin</td>
<td>1075</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>217</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons using Internet</td>
<td>1679</td>
<td>784</td>
<td>114</td>
<td>781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single parent families</td>
<td>426</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persons living alone</td>
<td>811</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons who do not speak English well</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons who lived at a different address 5 years ago</td>
<td>2647</td>
<td>1596</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Households without vehicles</td>
<td>421</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total persons residing in caravans, cabins or houseboats</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mean household size</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>2.9</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table B-1: Demographic characteristics, Population of Population and Housing, 2001
3. In addition the Wellington LGA is home to the Burrendong State Recreation Area, which is the centre of regional sporting and cultural activities as well as being a location of significant environmental heritage Lake Burrendong Sport and Recreation Centre, The Burrendong Botanic Gardens and Arboretum, Ridge Crest, Mookerawa Waters Park and Cudgegong River Park.

**Geographic Factors**

1. Landform and Topography – Much of the land is undulating, at around 300 metres above sea level. Mt Arthur Reserve, adjacent to Wellington, rises to 563 m above sea level. The Macquarie River and the Bell River meet at Wellington.

2. Vegetation – the majority of the non-urban area comprise grassland with light timber. The major natural habitat types in the region are lowland and subalpine woodlands, dry and wet sclerophyll forests, grasslands, lowland and subalpine wetlands, and riparian (streamside) communities.

3. Climate – Wellington is in the Central West Slopes weather forecasting district. The area has cool to cold winters and warm to hot summers. The average yearly rainfall is 620 mm with an average of 86 rain days annually as well as frequent frosts in winter. The average temperatures in summer are 30.50C (max) and 16.90C (min) and winter 14.90C (max) and 4.10C (min).

4. The inland position of the Wellington LGA has a relatively low elevation which ensures a warm temperate climate but restricted rainfall compared with areas on the tablelands. Wellington LGA has relatively consistent rainfall throughout the year; yet like most other areas of the Central West it is susceptible to extremes of precipitation which often cause flooding. Wellington Council as with the rest of the region and South Eastern Australia is affected by the El Nino Southern Oscillation (ENSO). ENSO is a natural phenomenon responsible for some but by no means all of the climatic variability in the region1.

**Specific Risk Areas**

The following information articulates risk relevant to specific areas within the Wellington area. They have been dissected into sectors for ease of management, administration and control.

a. Wellington is divided into 6 Sectors labelled Sector A to F.

b. Rural Area is divided into 3 Sectors labelled Sectors G to I.

---

1 Wellington Council State of the Environment Report 2004
Wellington Sector

1. Most of the flood liable land within the town boundary is zoned for open space or agricultural purposes, but about 40 hectares of land which would be inundated in the 1% AEP event are zoned for residential or business uses.

2. This includes dwellings in Gobolion St and Apsley St which periodically have to be evacuated, and some in low-lying parts of Montefiores.

3. It is estimated that some 30 residences, 6 commercial/industrial properties and a caravan park would be inundated above their floors in the 1% AEP flood.

4. Rarer, more severe floods than the 1% AEP flood would have even more severe consequences. In an extreme flood the area generally bounded by Whiteley St, Percy St and the Bell and Macquarie rivers would be subject to inundation. A significant section of residential land bounded by the Mitchell Highway, Montefiores St and Lay St in Montefiores is a shrinking island during the development of a flood more severe than a 1% AEP event, and requires close monitoring, there are 60 residents requiring evacuation in this area. The main business area of Wellington would be flooded for several days in an extreme event and Percy St and the Mitchell Highway would be closed. The majority of the town's shops and a number of schools, churches and other community facilities would experience inundation.

Effects on Residential Properties & Caravan parks

5. Some 30 residential properties are estimated to be damaged in a 1% AEP Flood:
   a. Montefiores Street 1
   b. Gobolion Street 3
   c. Ferguson Lane 4
   d. Maxwell Street 3
   e. Maughan Street 5
   f. Charles Street 1
   g. Parkes Road 2
   h. Paringa Place 1
   i. Percy Street 2
   j. Apsley Street 5
   k. Arthur Street 3
Table B-2: Effects on residential properties and caravan parks

Effects on Commercial/Industrial

6. In a flood approximating the 1% AEP flood, two businesses in Bushrangers Creek Road and four businesses in Arthur Street are inundated.

7. Table B3 summarises the number of affected commercial and industrial properties, which are mainly confined to the Bell River on the right bank of the floodplain.

Table B-3: Effects on Commercial / Industrial properties

Effects on Utilities and Infrastructure

8. Infrastructure in the area, such as the electrical and telephone supply, sewerage and water supply systems, and road network, are prone to damage during flooding. Community assets such as parks and other recreation amenities also suffer damage. Table B-4 outlines the results of affected infrastructure. Use the key in Table B-5 to reference the locations noted in Table B-4.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Damage Sector</th>
<th>Flood Event %AEP</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roads</td>
<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bridges</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sewerage Reticulation</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Supply</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and Showground</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table B-4: Effects on Utilities and Infrastructure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reference Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0</td>
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<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table B-5: Reference locations (see Table B-4 above)
Rural Areas Sector

1. Substantial areas within the Wellington Council area can be affected by flooding, whether by being cut off from road access or by inundation of property or buildings. Much of the flooding is of nuisance value, but on occasions floods can be severe enough to cause substantial damage to farm operations (including crop, stock, machinery and fence losses), especially in the valleys of the Bell and Macquarie rivers where market gardens exist. Several roads can be cut. Evacuations have been necessary on the Bell River flats, where about 40 families had to leave their homes during the 1955 and 1956 floods. Dwellings near other watercourses may also be flooded in severe events.

Geurie - Rural Sector

2. Geurie located 23km north of Wellington. Most flooding in the township area is of nuisance value caused from localised flash flooding and is not affected by the Macquarie River when in flood. Isolation is generally a short-term problem.

Camping Reserves

3. Along the Macquarie River near Ponto. Use by campers is very infrequent (Ponto is a place where the Macquarie River was forded in years gone by).

Road Closures

4. Several roads can be closed by flood waters, including the following:
   a. (SH 32) Mitchell Hwy Wellington and at Neurea (Newrea) Bridge.
   c. Geurie- Arthurville Road Ponto road approaches to Scabbing Flat Bridge at the Macquarie River.
   d. (MR 573) Burrendong Way, east of Apsley.
   e. Bushrangers Creek Road and Evans Road

Note: Local flooding may close minor roads for short periods, and extreme flooding could also cause widespread road closure.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Related Flood Gauge</th>
<th>Key Infrastructure</th>
<th>Considerations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A      | Low Flood Island | Macquarie River Bridge Gauge 421003 | Power Pole Maughan St Sewage Rx Works Water Rx Plant | - Duke of Wellington Bridge Closed  
- First house isolated  
- Montefiores St, yard flooding on lower levels.  
- Flood runners Break out Herbert St in North West direction then rejoins the Macquarie causing 20 houses to be isolated forming Flood Island  
- Maughan St Bridge Closed  
- Riverside C/Van Park  
- Christian School  
- ABC Pre School |
|        |         | Bell River Gauge 421008 |  | |
| B      | Area Accessible over | Wellington Bridge Gauge 421003  
Min: 4m  
Mod: 9.1m  
Maj: 12.2m | Pump Stn Arthur St. | - Hospital  
- Old Age home  
- Ambulance Station  
- SES Headquarters  
- RFS headquarters  
- Wellington High School  
- Wellington Pre School  
- Twin Rivers Engineering  
- Agrowplow Machinery |
|        |         | Min: 4m  
Mod: 9.1m  
Maj: 12.2m |  | |
| C      | Area Accessible over land | Bell River Gauge 421008  
Min: 3.4m  
Mod: 5.9m  
Maj: 8.4m | Council chambers Maughan St Bridge | - Main CBD  
- Caravan Park  
- St Mary Central School  
- Wellington Public School  
- Police Station  
- Fire Station  
- TAFE  
- Super Markets |
|        |         |  |  | |

Wellington Local Flood Plan, September 2008, Sub-Plan of Wellington Council Local Disaster Plan
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sector</th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Related Flood Gauge</th>
<th>Key Infrastructure</th>
<th>Considerations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| D      | Area Accessible over land | Wellington Bridge Gauge 421003 Min: 4m Mod: 9.1m Maj: 12.2m | | ▪ NSWFB training Track  
▪ Falls Rd Closed  
▪ Gas Storage Yard to be relocated  
▪ Nanima Reserve |
| E      | Area Accessible over land | Bell River Gauge 421008 Min: 3.4m Mod: 5.9m Maj: 8.4m | | ▪ Bell river flats 13 houses  
▪ Caravan Park  
▪ Wellington Caves |
| F      | Area Accessible over land | Bell River Gauge 421008 Neurea (Newrea) Gauge 421018 | | ▪ Showground Parks Rd Closed  
▪ Showground  
▪ Properties isolation |
| G      | Includes all rural area North of Wellington, East of Macquarie River to LGA boundary Including the town of Geurie. | Wellington Bridge Gauge 421003 Wellington Airport Tran grid power facility | | ▪ Geurie/Ponto rd closed  
▪ Correctional facility |
| H      | Includes all rural land south of the Wellington Township between the Macquarie River and Bell River | Bell River Gauge 421008 | | ▪ Neurea (Newrea) road Closure  
▪ Burrendong Dam  
▪ Sport & Rec  
▪ Properties downstream of dam |
| I      | Includes all rural area West of Bell/Macquarie River to LGA boundary | Wellington Bridge Gauge 421003 | | ▪ Isolation to properties |
SES RESPONSE
ARRANGEMENTS FOR WELLINGTON

Volume 3 of the Wellington Local Flood Plan
ANNEX C - GAUGES MONITORED BY THE WELLINGTON SES LOCAL HEADQUARTERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gauge Name</th>
<th>Gauge Type</th>
<th>AWRC No</th>
<th>Stream</th>
<th>Flood Classification</th>
<th>Reading Arrangement</th>
<th>Owner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Min</td>
<td>Mod</td>
<td>Maj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burrendong D/S</td>
<td>River - Telemeter</td>
<td>421040</td>
<td>Macquarie</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burrendong</td>
<td>River - Manual</td>
<td>421078</td>
<td>Macquarie</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
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<tr>
<td>Geurie</td>
<td>River - Manual</td>
<td>421900 †</td>
<td>Macquarie</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>12.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>River - Telemeter</td>
<td>421003 *†</td>
<td>Macquarie</td>
<td>4.00</td>
<td>9.10</td>
<td>12.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bakers Swamp</td>
<td>River - Manual</td>
<td>10012</td>
<td>Bell</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurea (Newrea)</td>
<td>River - Telemeter</td>
<td>421018 *</td>
<td>Bell</td>
<td>4.90</td>
<td>5.40</td>
<td>6.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
<td>River - Manual</td>
<td>421008 †</td>
<td>Bell</td>
<td>3.40</td>
<td>5.90</td>
<td>8.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gowan Green</td>
<td>River - Telemeter</td>
<td>421027*</td>
<td>Bell</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larras Lee</td>
<td>Rainfall - Telemeter</td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neurea (Newrea)</td>
<td>Rainfall - Telemeter</td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart Town</td>
<td>Rainfall - Manual</td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Molong</td>
<td>Rainfall - Manual</td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Euchareena</td>
<td>Rainfall - Unofficial</td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Store Creek</td>
<td>Rainfall - Unofficial</td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farnham</td>
<td>Rainfall - Unofficial</td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mumbil</td>
<td>Rainfall - Unofficial</td>
<td>#</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
1. The Bureau of Meteorology provides flood warnings for the gauges marked with an asterisk (*).
2. SES Local Flood Advices are provided for the gauges marked with a single cross (†).
3. The SES holds a Flood Intelligence Card for the gauges marked with a double cross (‡).
4. Rain gauges used to measure rain in the catchment area are marked with an (#).
ANNEX D - DISSEMINATION OF SES FLOOD BULLETINS

The Macquarie SES Region Headquarters distributes SES Flood Bulletins and other flood related information (including Flood Warnings) to the following regional media outlets:

**Television Stations:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WIN TV</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prime TV</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital TV</td>
<td>Canberra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ABC TV</td>
<td>Sydney</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Radio Stations:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Modulation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2DU</td>
<td>Dubbo</td>
<td>1251 AM</td>
<td>AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zoo FM</td>
<td>Dubbo</td>
<td>92.7 FM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2CR</td>
<td>Orange (ABC, for transmission to 2WPR FM Dubbo)</td>
<td>99.5 FM</td>
<td>FM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2GZ</td>
<td>Orange</td>
<td>105.1 FM</td>
<td>FM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2LT</td>
<td>Lithgow</td>
<td>900 AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real FM</td>
<td>Mudgee</td>
<td>93.1 FM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2MG</td>
<td>Mudgee</td>
<td>1449 AM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community</td>
<td>Wellington SES headquarters</td>
<td>88.0 FM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Newspapers:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dubbo Daily Liberal</td>
<td>216 Macquarie Street DUBBO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wellington Times</td>
<td>76 Percy St. WELLINGTON</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other Agencies:**

Flood bulletins will be issued to all agencies with responsibilities listed in this plan and DISPLAN.
ANNEX E - TEMPLATE EVACUATION WARNING MESSAGE FOR [ENTER NAME OF AREA]

Evacuation Warning for [                      ]

Date/Time of Issue: [                          ]

Authorised By: [                              ]

The Bureau of Meteorology has predicted a flood level of [       ] metres at [                          ] (place) at [                          ] (time). This means that the following area(s) may be inundated [                          ].

It is recommended that you prepare to evacuate/for evacuation within the next [       ] hours. If you leave it later, the roads may be congested or closed.

To prepare for evacuation, you should:

- Raise belongings by placing them on tables, beds and benches. Put electrical items on top. Some items may be able to be placed in ceilings.
- Gather medicines, personal and financial documents and mementos together to take with you.
- Listen to radio stations [enter station] for further information and to confirm this warning.
- If possible, check to see whether your neighbours need help.
- Make arrangements for care of pets or companion animals.

If evacuation is necessary:

- Turn off the electricity, gas and water.
- Take three days’ supply of clothes with you.
- If you have a car, drive to the evacuation centre at [                          ] (specify route if appropriate).
- If you don’t have a car, buses will operate on normal routes. Special transport can also be provided on request if necessary, telephone [                          ].
- So that you can be accounted for, it is important that you register at the evacuation centre.
- After registering, you may go to the house of a friend or relative. Alternatively, accommodation will be arranged for you.
- The Police will provide security for your property while you are away.
ANNEX F - EVACUATION ARRANGEMENTS
FOR THE WELLINGTON COUNCIL AREA

Background
1. Floodwaters usually enter Wellington after overtopping the banks of the Bell River. Houses usually start to be affected in Wellington when the Macquarie River reaches 9.0 metres and Bell River reaches 5.0 metres.
2. During periods of significant flooding evacuations will be necessary from a variety of sectors across the local government area. Isolation affects properties which in many cases will necessitate evacuation. In floods approximating the 14m on the Wellington gauge, 30 residential properties and 6 commercial properties will be inundated, and at 15m on the Wellington gauge approximately 77 residential properties and 14 commercial properties would be flooded.
3. In an extreme flood event or Dam failure the entire community of Wellington will need to be evacuated along with many rural properties on the floodplain.
4. Most of the flood liable land within the town's boundaries is zoned for open space or agricultural purposes. About 40 hectares of land which would be inundated in the 1% AEP event are zoned for residential or business uses.
5. Flooding in the Wellington Council area may require the evacuation of the entire community.
6. Flood evacuation warning time could be as little as 90 mins in a dam failure event. (See Annex H).

Arrangements
1. Control. During floods, evacuation will be controlled by the NSW SES. Small-scale evacuations will be controlled by the Wellington SES Local Controller. Should the evacuation operation escalate beyond the capabilities of local resources control may be handed over to the Macquarie SES Region Controller.
2. Conduct. Evacuations will be controlled by the SES and conducted in four phases:
   - Phase 1 - Warning.
   - Phase 2 – Withdrawal.
   - Phase 3 – Shelter.
   - Phase 4 – Return.
Decision to Evacuate

1. **The decision to evacuate.** The responsibility for issuing any general evacuation order during flooding rests with the Wellington SES Local Controller who exercises his/her authority in accordance with Section 22(1) of The State Emergency Service Act 1989. However, the decision to evacuate will usually be made after consultation with the Local Emergency Operations Controller and the Macquarie SES Region Controller.

2. **When evacuation should occur.** As far as possible, evacuation will be carried out before inundation occurs.

3. **What to consider.** When deciding to evacuate, the following should be considered:
   a. Predicted flood level and rate of rise.
   b. Rainfall situation and rainfall predictions.
   c. Condition of evacuation routes.
   d. Characteristics of the at risk population.
   e. Time of day.
   f. Likely duration of evacuation operations and time available to conduct evacuations.
   g. Likely duration of any isolation and preparedness of the community to cope with isolation.
   h. Condition of essential services.

4. **Self-motivated evacuation.** Some people will make their own decision to evacuate earlier and move to alternative accommodation using their own transport. These evacuees will be advised, via the media, to inform the Police or SES of their evacuation and their temporary address.

5. **Evacuation triggers**
   a. **Failure of Essential Services.** The failure of public utilities such as sewerage, power, telephones and water pose a significant health risk to residents on the floodplain or in flood affected areas. In the event of any or all of these systems failing or potentially failing, the need for evacuations will be discussed with the members of the LEMC.
   b. **Flooding affecting properties.** Evacuations are to occur, if it is likely properties will be flooded.
   c. **Isolation of properties.** Persons who are not prepared for isolation or unsuited due to medical conditions etc, should be encouraged to evacuate
   d. **Dam Failure.** Evacuations are to occur when advised by State Water of Imminent Dam failure.
6. **Evacuation Management** To assist with the operational management of floods in the Wellington LGA the area has been divided into sectors.

a. Wellington Town Sectors A- F (see Map 3)
b. Wellington LGA Sectors G – I (see Map 4)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wellington Sectors</th>
<th>Boundaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| A                  | North – Macquarie Stud. (Included)  
|                    | South – Macquarie/Bell River confluence.  
|                    | East – Main Western Railway Line.  
|                    | West – Macquarie River |
| B                  | North – Macquarie River  
|                    | South – To Samuel St,  
|                    | East – McLeod St south to Hermitage Hill peak  
|                    | West – Main Western Railway Line |
| C                  | North – Macquarie River and Bell River confluence  
|                    | South – Samuel St (Included)  
|                    | East – Main Western Railway Line  
|                    | West – Bell River |
| D                  | North – Macquarie River & McLeod St,  
|                    | South – Apsley road Including Nanima Village  
|                    | East – Macquarie River  
|                    | West – Hermitage hill then south out to Main Western Railway Line |
| E                  | North – Samuel St  
|                    | South – Wellington Caves (including)  
|                    | East – Main Western Railway Line  
|                    | West – Bell River |
| F                  | North – Macquarie/Bell River confluence  
|                    | South – Across From Wellington Caves  
|                    | East – Bell River  
|                    | West – Foot of Mt Arthur |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rural Sectors</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>G</td>
<td>Includes all rural area East of Macquarie River to LGA boundary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>Includes all rural land south of the Wellington Township between the Macquarie River and Bell River to LGA boundary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>Includes all rural area West of Bell/Macquarie River to LGA boundary</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table F1: Wellington sector boundary descriptions**
Phase 1 – Warning

1. Evacuation warnings. On the receipt of flood warnings predicting peak heights of
   a. 2.80 metres on the NEUREA (NEWREA) gauge.
   b. 5 metres on the MACQUARIE gauge and,
   c. 3 metres on the BELL Bridge gauge: or
   d. Orange or Red Alert indicating Imminent Dam Failure

The Wellington SES Local Controller will consult as necessary to determine the level of the threat and the need to consider evacuations. As soon as possible after the decision to evacuate is made, the Wellington SES Local Controller will issue evacuation warnings to the ‘at risk’ residents, indicating what people should do before evacuating and when actually doing so.

2. Content of Evacuation Warnings. A template guide to the content of evacuation warning messages is at Annex E. These are disseminated via:
   - The radio and TV stations listed in Annex D.
   - Door-knocks by emergency service personnel.
   - Public address systems from emergency service vehicles.
   - Telephone.
   - Two-way radio.
   - Direct access to Radio Station - Wellington Unit has a community radio located in the headquarters.
   - SES Flood Bulletins

3. Time required to complete Evacuations. The below details the time required to evacuate the at risk population depending on doorknocking teams available.

4. Assumptions -
   a. 200 properties, Time to Doorknock = 5 minutes per property; 1.5 Vehicles per household.
   b. 600 vehicles/lane/hour with One Evacuation route with one inbound and one outbound lane
   c. Assume 1.5 hours Decision Time, & 1.5 hours mobilisation time.
   d. Warning acceptance factor is 1 hour and warning lag factor is 1 hour
   e. 2.5 Per person per household
   f. A Team consist of 2 Personnel (OOAA Team will be required >15)
Table F-2: Evacuation modelling

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Door Knocking Teams</th>
<th>Property Advised per hour</th>
<th>No. of person Advised per hour</th>
<th>Vehicles generated per hour</th>
<th>Decision/ Mobilisation Time</th>
<th>Warning Acceptance factor</th>
<th>Warning Lag factor</th>
<th>Total Evacuation Time in Hours for 200 Properties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>6.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>6.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>600</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>450</td>
<td>3.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>5.6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Table is based on the use of only one evacuation route therefore limit is reached when vehicle movement is 600 vehicle, due to road capacity.

** Calculation of total evacuation time is based on time to evacuate 200 properties.

Table F-2: Evacuation modelling

** Phase 2 – Withdrawal **

1. **Introduction.** Withdrawal involves the actual removal of the community/individuals from dangerous or potentially dangerous areas to safer areas.

2. **Movement.** Evacuees are to be encouraged to move using their own transport where possible. The Wellington SES Local Controller will arrange transport for those people without their own vehicles.

3. **Priority.** In evacuations priority will be given to assist in the movement and management of people.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Triggers</th>
<th>Priority 1</th>
<th>Priority 2</th>
<th>Priority 3</th>
<th>Priority 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Flood Warning</td>
<td>Schools and Child Care Centres, Special needs/home care patients</td>
<td>Elderly and infirm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Failure of Essential Services</td>
<td>Hospitals</td>
<td>Aged Care Facilities</td>
<td>Identified at risk home residents</td>
<td>Other residents and pets as possible.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flooding affecting properties</td>
<td>Special needs/home care patients</td>
<td>Ground Level residents/Caravan Parks</td>
<td>Other residents and pets when possible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolation of properties</td>
<td>Elderly and infirm</td>
<td>Single Parent families</td>
<td>Resupply</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imminent Dam Failure</td>
<td>Identified at risk residents immediately downstream</td>
<td>Schools and Child Care Centres, Special needs/home care patients</td>
<td>Elderly and infirm</td>
<td>All Ground Level residents Caravan Parks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. **Large-scale evacuations.** In extreme flood events only or dam failure, large scale evacuation will be required. The Wellington SES Local Controller will consult with the Macquarie SES Region Controller. In such an event the evacuation will result in the community being evacuated to Mudgee or to Orange.

5. **In Dam Failure.** The flow time from actual dam failure to Wellington town is 90 minutes. Notification arrangements between State Water and emergency services are described in the Burrendong Dam Safety Emergency Plan.

6. **Special Needs Groups.** The following special needs groups exist within Wellington.
   a. Wellington Hospital
   b. Aged care facilities
   c. Home care patients
   d. Schools

7. **Animals.** Assistance animals (guide dogs, hearing assistance animals, etc) will remain in the care of their owners throughout the evacuation. This includes transport and access into evacuation centres etc. Due to safety restrictions, it may not be possible to allow companion animals to accompany their owners when being transported via aircraft or flood rescue boats.
Department of Primary Industries will make separate arrangements for the evacuation and care of companion animals.

8. **Doorknocking.** Field teams conducting doorknocks will record and report back the following information back to the Operations Centre:
   - Addresses and locations of houses doorknocked and/or evacuated.
   - The number of occupants.
   - Details of support required (such as transport, medical evacuation, assistance to secure house and/or property and raise or move belongings).
   - Details of residents who refuse to comply with the evacuation order.

9. **Refusal to evacuate.** Field teams should not waste time dealing with people who are reluctant or refuse to comply with any evacuation order. These cases should be referred to the Local Emergency Management Operations Controller who will arrange for Police to ensure their evacuation.

10. **Security.** The NSW Police Force will provide security for evacuated areas.

11. **Transport and storage.** Transport and storage of furniture from flood threatened properties will be arranged as time and resources permit.

**Phase 3 – Shelter**

1. **Evacuation Centres.** The usual purpose of evacuation centres is to meet the immediate needs of victims, not to provide them with accommodation. Evacuees will be advised to go to or be taken to the nearest accessible evacuation centre, which may initially be established at the direction of the Wellington SES Local Controller but managed as soon as possible by the Department of Community Services.

2. Any or all of the following sites may be used as the primary evacuation centres:
   a. **Soil Conservation Centre** (suitable for evacuation including when there is a threat of Burrendong Dam Failure, whilst bridge is still trafficable).
   b. **Wellington Civic Centre** (suitable for floods not expected to exceed 15m on the Wellington gauge).
   c. **Geurie** - CWA Hall
   d. **Mumbil** - Public School, Apsley Crescent
   e. **Stuart Town** – School of Arts Hall, Molong St
   f. **Euchareena** – Village Hall, Molong St
   g. **Wellington Airport** may be used (if air evacuation is required) for evacuation to Mudgee or Orange. There are no facilities at the airport suitable for setting up an evacuation centre.
h. **Hermitage Hill (old Hospital)** is suitable only as a shelter of last resort

3. **Action on arrival.** On arrival, evacuees will be:
   a. Registered;
   b. Medically checked, if necessary; and
   c. Provided with their immediate welfare needs.

4. **Registration.** The NSW Police Force will ensure that all evacuees are registered on arrival at the designated evacuation centres.

5. **Animal shelter compounds.** Animal shelter compounds will be set up for the domestic pets and companion animals of evacuees. These facilities will be operated by DPI.

**Phase 4 – Return**

1. Once it is considered safe to do so, the Wellington SES Local Controller will authorise the return of evacuees to their normal or alternative place of residence. This decision will be made in consultation with appropriate officers in regard to matters such as the electrical safety of buildings.

2. The return will be controlled by the Wellington SES Local Controller and may be conducted, at his/her request, by DoCS.
ANNEX G - ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE EVACUATION OF CARAVAN PARKS AND THE RELOCATION OF CARAVANS

General
1. The following caravan parks are flood liable:
   a. Riverside Caravan Park
   b. Wellington Caves holiday Complex
   c. Wellington Valley

Advising Procedures
1. Caravan Park proprietors will be encouraged to ensure that the owners and occupiers of caravans are:
   a. Made aware that the caravan park is flood liable by:
      • Handing a printed notice to occupiers taking up residence. The notice will indicate that the caravan park is liable to flooding and outline the evacuation and van relocation arrangements as detailed in this Annex.
      • Displaying this notice prominently in each van.
   b. Made aware that if they are expecting to be absent from their vans for extended periods, they must:
      • Provide the manager with a key, in a sealed envelope, to the van.
      • Provide a contact address and telephone number.
      • Inform the manager if a vehicle will be required to relocate the van during flood time.
      • Leave any mobile van in a condition allowing it to be towed in an emergency (i.e.: tyres inflated, jacks wound up, personal effects secured and annexes and lines for water, sewer, electricity and gas readily detachable).
   c. Informed when a flood is rising. At this time, occupiers will be advised to:
      • Ensure that they have spare batteries for their radios.
      • Listen to a local radio station for updated flood information.
      • Prepare for evacuation and van relocation.
2. The Wellington SES Local Controller will ensure that the managers of caravan parks are aware of the evacuation warnings and orders as outlined on Annex F.
Evacuation of Occupants and Relocation of Vans

1. Caravan park proprietors will be encouraged to install flood depth indicators and road alignment markers within their caravan parks.

2. When an evacuation order is given:
   a. Occupiers of non-movable vans should:
      - Secure their vans by tying them down to prevent flotation.
      - Isolate power to their vans.
      - Collect personal papers, medicines, and a change of clothing, toiletries and bedclothes.
      - Lift the other contents of their vans as high as possible within the van.
      - Move to a designated evacuation centre if they have their own transport, or move to the caravan office to await transport.
      - Evacuation/Assembly points see Table G1.
   b. Where possible, vans that can be moved will be relocated by their owners. Park managers will arrange for the relocation of mobile vans whose owners do not have a vehicle. Council and SES personnel will assist if required and may be able to provide additional vehicles.

3. Caravan park managers will:
   a. Ensure that their caravan park is capable of being evacuated within time frames outlined in Table G-1.
   b. Advise the Wellington SES Local Controller of:
      - The number of people requiring transport.
      - Details of any medical evacuations required.
      - Whether additional assistance is required to effect the evacuation.
   c. Check that no people remain in non-removable vans that are likely to be inundated.
   d. Inform the Wellington SES Local Controller when the evacuation of the caravan park has been completed.
   e. Provide the Wellington SES Local Controller with a register of people that have been evacuated.
Return of Occupants and Vans

4. The Wellington SES Local Controller, using council resources as necessary, will advise when it is safe for the caravan parks to be re-occupied.

5. Vans will be towed back to the caravan park(s) by van owners or by vehicles and drivers arranged by the park managers. Again, Council and SES personnel will assist if available.
ANNEX H - DETAILS OF THE DAM-FAILURE WARNING AND EVACUATION SYSTEM FOR BURRENDONG DAM

General

1. Burrendong Dam is situated on the Macquarie River just below its confluence with the Cudgegong River. The Dam has a total catchment of 13 890 sq.km. The town of Wellington is about 30 km downstream, and Dubbo is about 50 km downstream of Wellington.

2. Burrendong Dam was completed in 1963. The dam is situated on a sedimentary formation of slate, greywacke, sandstone, quartzite’s, silicious siltstone and tuffs folded into a “U” shape under the river and with a faulted brecciate zone about 300 metres wide halfway up the left embankment.

3. The dam construction is of a clay core earth and rock fill embankment, having a storage capacity of 1 188 000ML (344.73 mAHD). The dams flood storage level is 489 000 MI (350.83mAHD).

4. The dam is estimated to be able to withstand a flood volume up to 70-80% of that in the PMF (Probable Maximum Flood) at the dam site. The flow in such a flood would be vastly greater than has ever been recorded there and would be extremely rare. Failure would add further to the previously-existing flow volume, but is extremely unlikely because one of the saddle dams would be deliberately breached to save the main dam. This too would however, add to the seriousness of an already very severe flood downstream.

5. The Burrendong Dam Safety Emergency Plan 2005 contains procedures for the dam’s safety operation.

Purpose of System

1. The Dam Safety Committee states that Burrendong Dam has an inadequate flood capacity and could be structurally inadequate under normal operating conditions. (NSW Dams Safety Committee Annual Report 2004 / 2005 page 17).

2. Dam Failure can be possible from the following:
   a. Failure due to a rapidly deteriorating structural condition. (Sunny Day failure)
   b. Failure due to a rapidly deteriorating structural condition which may be induced by an extreme earthquake.
   c. Failure due to extreme flood levels overtopping the embankment.
Operation and Procedures

1. **Monitoring Procedure.** Under normal operations, storage is controlled by State Water.

2. During flooding events, the dam will be continuously monitored. If storage behaviour appears suspect, the storage level reading will be visually checked on the dam.

3. The Duty Officer will keep the State Emergency Service informed of the discharge through the spillway. In particular, the following alerts will be sent to the SES.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stored Water Level</th>
<th>Alert</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Storage Level Exceeds 344.73</td>
<td>Water level exceeds full supply level. Spillway Discharge possible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage level Exceeds 350.829</td>
<td>Water level expected to exceed Flood level storage. Spillway gate are raised to pass floods. High Discharge imminent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Discharge reaches 15 000 ML/day</td>
<td>WHITE ALERT:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage Level exceeds 356.92</td>
<td>Gates are withdrawn. No control of discharge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage Level exceeds 360.88</td>
<td>Design Flood Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage Level reaches 361.5</td>
<td>ORANGE ALERT; Saddle Dam to be breached</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storage level reaches 362.41</td>
<td>RED ALERT: Crest of Embankment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4. In the event of a Earth Tremor, the following action is taken

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tremor &lt; then MM5</th>
<th>Tremor &gt; MM5</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State water will carry out Inspection</td>
<td>State water will advise the SES &amp; then advise after Dam inspection</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Flow Times**

**Flow Times under Extreme Flood**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From Burrendong Dam to Wellington</th>
<th>90 minutes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From Burrendong Dam to Dubbo</td>
<td>7 hours 45 minutes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note! That these times do not reflect the time for the failure “to develop”. Estimates for the time from the start of the initiating event to failure is about 55 hours i.e. substantial lead time
Flood Consequences of Failure Downstream

1. In all failure scenarios, extreme velocities and depths are likely to be experienced resulting in the destruction of private property and public infrastructure.

2. Severe flooding would also likely damage power supply facilities in the area resulting in loss of power, put telephone facilities out of action, and cut off evacuation routes.

3. The flooding impact downstream of Burrendong releases may be assessed by the flooding effects in Wellington and Dubbo. The following table list the various flood classifications.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flow at (ML/day) (Gauge Height (m))</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wellington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minor Flood level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moderate Flood Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Major Flood level</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Warnings & Advice to People Potentially at Threat

1. The Wellington SES Local Controller will consult as necessary to determine the level of the threat and the need to consider evacuations. As soon as possible after the decision to evacuate is made, the Wellington SES Local Controller will issue evacuation warnings to the ‘at risk’ residents, indicating what people should do before evacuating and when actually doing so.

2. Downstream there are 21 properties that need to be immediately notified. See Burrendong Dam Safety Plan.

3. ALERT Levels:
   - **Green Level alert**: Normal dam operation no action required.
   - **White Level Alert**: possible Structural anomaly. Dam failure warnings will be disseminated to “prepare to evacuate” to properties immediately downstream.
   - **Orange Level Alert**: Evacuation of Residents immediately downstream of dam wall (prior to Saddle wall being breached). Prepare Wellington residents for evacuation.
   - **Red Level Alert**: Failure imminent or occurred. Evacuation of Wellington.

4. The SES will disseminate dam failure warnings with assistance from NSW Police Force, NSW Fire Brigades, NSW Rural Fire Service, VRA, Service Clubs and Wellington Council.
5. Content of Evacuation Warnings. These are disseminated via:
   a. The radio and TV stations listed in Annex D
   b. Door-knocks by emergency service personnel
   c. Public address systems from emergency service vehicles
   d. Telephone
   e. Two-way radio
   f. Direct access to Radio Station - Wellington Unit has a community radio located in the headquarters
   g. SES Evacuation Bulletins

6. Broadcast dam failure warning messages will describe the situation; say what is happening currently: what is expected to happen: when it will occur and indicate how people should act. If evacuation is required the message will be preceded by the playing of the Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) and will detail:
   a. Instructions to evacuate
   b. The location of assembly areas for transport to evacuation centres
   c. The location of evacuation centres for those using private transport
   d. Authorised or recommended evacuation routes
   e. Arrangements for children in schools and pre-schools
   f. Arrangements for elderly or infirm residents unable to self-evacuate

Evacuation

1. On receipt of a Red Alert for dam failure, evacuation of the entire Wellington town population will need to take place, along with any rural properties in the (dambreak) floodplain.

2. Sectors will be evacuated to Mudgee or Orange pending the current flooding conditions. In extreme or sunny day failure with short warning time the Evacuation points are the Soil Conservation Centre and Hermitage Hill.

3. The following will also take place in the event of a Dam failure:
   a. ARTC to supply transport if available to Mudgee or Orange
   b. Advise Mudgee Local Controller
   c. Advise Central West Region Controller
   d. Advise LEOCON of Dubbo, Mudgee and Orange
MAP 1 - MACQUARIE – BOGAN RIVERS BASIN
MAP 3 - WELLINGTON TOWN
MAP 5 - WELLINGTON TOWN SECTORS
MAP 6 - WELLINGTON RURAL SECTORS